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Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL .....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY.

ONE OF THE best managed charitable institutions in Calcutta seems to be the St. Vincent's Institution belonging to the Catholics. Its resources are limited, but they seem to be husbanded with the greatest care. Last year the total receipts amounted to Rs. 2,554, while the disbursements came to Rs. 1,971 leaving a balance of Rs. 583. It is observable that the printing and advertizing charges came to Rs. 5. ground rent Rs. 37, and sundry charges Rs. 69, while the bulk of the income was applied to the maintenance of the Institution. This was as it should have been.

THE INMATES of the St. Vincent's Institution are divided into two classes, *viz*: 1*st*.—Boarders and destitute women. 2*nd*—Fallen women who come to the Institution for moral improvement. During the last year there were 109 admissions, *viz*., 49 married and 12 unmarried adults, and 31 children, or a total of 92 of the 1st class, and 17 women of the 2nd class,—the monthly average number of inmates in the Institution being 53. The majority of the inmates of the Home during 1875 were young girls and married women. Most of these young girls had been brought up in other Institutions, from which they had been expelled for bad conduct. They were taken in hand by the religious ladies at the Institution and taught the duties of domestic servants. Several of them have obtained situations in respectable families. Regarding the fallen women the report says:

"Of the 14 of these poor creatures who have left the Home in 1875, the religious ladies report that all have been reclaimed, and are now leading virtuous lives; three having been married, while two have rejoined their husbands, and nine have gone back to their parents or relatives. On this subject it would not be desirable to enter more into particulars, as the names and circumstances of the inmates of this class are kept strictly private, and in most instances are known only to the Lady Superior. But we can assure the friends and benefactors of the Institution that a great deal of permanent good has been done amongst this unhappy class during the year under review, and if the Committee were in a position to make a larger monthly allowance for the support of the Institution, the sphere of its operations in this direction could be greatly extended."

The charitably-disposed public ought to support this useful and benevolent institution.

THE BENGAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT for 1874-75 has the following account of affairs in the Sonthal Pergunnas:

"Some anxiety was occasioned during the year by the condition of affairs in Sonthalistan. Among the Sontbals there have for some time past been manifested various symptoms of uneasiness and restlessness. These people have risen more than once before. On the present occasion the disaffection manifested itself by a spirit of resistance to the payment of rent. In the greater part of Sonthalia a settlement is going on under Regulation I of 1872 between the zemindars (chiefly Bengalees) and the ryots (chiefly Sonthals). Its object is to secure reasonably low rents fixed for terms of years, and is so far clearly advantageous to the ryot. On the other hand, the zemindar will be secured a more punctual realization than heretofore of his dues. Without this Regulation there is every reason to suppose that the zemindars and ryots would proceed to extremities; indeed the arrangement was made expressly (in the words of the Regulation) for the peace and good government of the Sonthal country. A sort of religious movement has also been for some time past perceptible among the Sonthals, and is increasing. They are leaving their aboriginal religion and joining Hindooism. Attempts have been made among them to form a kind of political organization. If there were to be a rising, expense and trouble would have to be incurred in putting it down, and a long time would elapse before the people would recover a good tone. The Lieutenant-Governor accordingly sanctioned the location of additional police in the Pergunnahs. He also obtained the sanction of the Government of India to the proposal that troops should, for the purpose of a demonstration, be quartered at Doomka, and a wing of the 4th Native Infantry from Bhagulpore has been stationed there since March last. Under these precautions no attempts have been made by the Sonthals to rise, and the measures adopted have produced a sobering effect."

Sir Richard deserves great credit for the tact and judgment with which he has overcome the difficulty in Sonthalia. But we hear grievous complaints on the part of the zemindars, who complain that their interests are being unduly sacrificed.

IT APPEARS from the Bengal Administration Report that the income of the Cooch Behar State consists of Rs. 5,29,317 of land revenue and Rs. 38,189 *sayerat*, or miscellaneous revenue—in all Rs. 5,67,506. Besides this there is the income from the zemindari, land and houses, in British districts, which the Rajah holds as private property, and other miscellaneous items, making up the total to Rs. 11,60,000, or 11½ lakhs of rupees. The expenditure of the State is kept well within the amount above mentioned. There is now an accumulation of 15 lakhs of rupees cash in the treasury, in place of the debts which existed at the beginning of the minority. This has been invested for the most part in public securities. An expenditure of over two lakhs of rupees was incurred in the prevention of famine in 1874.

THE most important Government estates in Bengal are the Damin-i-koh in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the Western Dooars in Julpigoree, the Terai in Darjeeling, the greater parts of Palamow in Lohardugga, and the Kolhan in Singbhoom. The total number of Government estates in Bengal is not less than 2,501. The total demand of revenue from the Government estates in 1874-75 was Rs. 18,65,752. The unrealized balance of the year amounted to no less than Rs. 5,80,625, or 31 per cent. The only districts where the arrears were less than 20 per cent. of the demand were Bogra, Julpigoree, the three districts of Orissa, Tipperah, Noakhally, Patna, and Gya. So much for Government khas management.

TUESDAY, 8TH FEBRUARY.

THE ESTATES under the superintendence of the Court of Wards in the Presidency Division during the past year were as follows: six in the 24-Pergunnahs, one in Nuddea and three in Jessore. The more important of the estates under the Collector in the 24-Pergunnahs are Paikparah, Satkhira, and Goberdangah; but by far the most important of these is Paikparah, which embraces property in 19 districts in Bengal and the north-west, for the most part let in putni, and has a gross rental of about nine lakhs of rupees. Satkhira is the next in importance. It lies in five districts. Some of this estate is held khas and some is let in putni, the gross rental being Rs. 2,78,000. Goberdangah has property situated in four districts, and is managed chiefly khas, the gross rental being Rs. 1,54,000. The estate of the minor Rajah of Kishnaghur has a gross rental of Rs. 1,50,263, and is now, as the Collector writes, "practically out of the debt." More than half of the Nuldangah estates in Jessore, is let in putni; the rest being managed on the model of a Government khas estate. The gross rental amounts to Rs. 1,06,000. The smallest of the wards' estates under the Collector of Jessore is that of Bogchur, which has a gross rental of Rs. 23,500, and is held for the greater part in putni, and for the rest under khas management.

THE ESTATES of the Maharaja of Hutwa lately under the management of the Court of Wards lie in six districts, but are for the most part situated in Sarun. They include 1,365 villages, cover an area of 390,015 acres, and their population is 391,350. Their gross rental is Rs. 8,62,625 and the Government revenue Rs. 193,521.

THE DURBHUNGA ESTATE is the largest estate under the Court of Wards, containing extensive property in the Tirhoot districts, besides purgunnahs Naridigar in Bhagulpore, Dharampore in Purneah, and Haveli Kharakpur in Monghyr. The estate is almost entirely held direct from Government on a comparatively light average assessment. The gross income of the estate in 1874-75 was Rs. 20,24,198, or more than £200,000, and the land revenue paid to Government was only Rs. 4,28,210.

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT gives the totals of the various kinds of civil suits instituted in the courts of the interior of Bengal during 1874:

INSTITUTED IN	Suits for money.	Under Rent Law.	Other suits.	Total.
Small Cause Courts.	37,324	...	..	37,324
Moonsifs' do. ..	113,887	100,518	35,357	249,762
Sub-Judges' do. ..	2,417	628	1,494	4,539
District Judges' do..	22	18	23	63
Revenue ..	..	6,533	..	6,533
Total ...	153,697	107,697	36,874	298,221

It will be seen that the rent-suits constitute more than one-third of the aggregate.

THE FOLLOWING statement shows the proportion per cent. borne by the different kinds of suits to each other throughout the Lower Provinces during the years 1873 and 1874:

NATURE OF SUITS.	Totals in 1873.	Totals in 1874.	Percentage 1873.	Percentage 1874.
Suits for money, &c..	128,504	116,304	47·936	45·734
Rent suits ..	103,667	101,146	38·720	39·774
Suits for immovable property. ...	24,998	28,506	9·335	11·209
Suits for specific performance of contract. ..	2,146	1,206	·814	·479
Suits to declare and establish rights to real property including preemption, foreclosure, &c. ..	3,241	3,296	1·208	1·296
Suits to declare and establish personal rights ..	2,154	1,430	·804	·562
Suits for an account..	978	692	·365	·272
Suits relating to religious endowments ...	43	67	·016	·026
Suits to set aside judgments &c., ...	543	486	·200	191
Suits for dissolution of marriage ...	85	79	·031	·031
Suits for enforcement of matrimonial rights	702	551	·262	·216
Suits for partition ...	492	413	·183	162
Suits relating to shipping ..	3	1	·001	·000
Suits relating to religion and caste ...	179	129	·065	·048
Total	264,735	254,306	100	100

THE CONSTITUTION of the committees appointed under the various Municipal Acts in Bengal was as follows:

ACTS.	Europeans.	Natives.	Officials.	Non-official
Act III of 1864...	197	243	185	269
„ IV of 1868 ..	173	769	255	687
„ XX of 1856 ..	12	379	16	375
„ XXVI of 1850...	7	..	1	6
Total ...	389	1,396	457	1,328

WEDNESDAY, 9TH FEBRUARY.

FROM the commencement of their operations, the Port Commissioners of Calcutta have spent the following amounts on the several items specified below:

		Rs.	Rs.
On new works			52,84,892
On the port, including debt			19,56,370
			72,41,262
Reserve Fund for jetties	...	20,594	
Repaid debt	...	1,86,096	
Depreciation of port block	...	1,06,459	
Reserve Fund for block	...	3,64,250	
			6,77,199
			79,28,861
DEBT.			
Borrowed from Government	..	39,84,100	
Port debt	...	17,65,000	
			57,49,100
Expended from revenue		...	21,77,361

IN 1872 the Government of Bengal projected the following farms:

(1) A set of small irrigational farms in Cuttack, on the plan proposed by the Commissioner of the Orissa Division.

(2) A model farm of not more than 100 acres in the Midnapore district, on a canal, with small attached ryots' farms under supervision.

(3) A very moderate sized farm on the Soane Canal, in the Shahabad district, with attached ryots' farms under supervision.

(4) An experimental Government farm in the Khasi Hills in Shillong.

(5) Model villages in khas and wards' estates, at the expense of the estate.

Of these farms the Shillong farm has been made over to the Assam Government. The farm at Midnapore did not get beyond the stage of correspondence, although a proposal had been submitted in 1872 to start a farm of 300 beeghas in the mouzah Radhakishore. The soil was found to be very poor, and the project was abandoned. The farm projected in the Shahabad district was finally opened at Arrah in April 1873, under the superintendence of Mr. Gleeson, a European gardener from Allahabad, previously in charge of the cotton experiments there. After working the Arrah farm for two years it has been abandoned. In 1873-74 ten farms were opened in Cuttack, but in the year 1874-75 only five were kept up, the

ryots apparently showing no readiness to do what was wanted of them, though very liberal terms were offered. Forty-four small royti farms were opened at Santipore under the superintendence of the Rev. J. Phillips, an American Missionary, who was formerly a farmer in America, subject to the control of the collector of the district. The area cultivated in 1873 was 305 beeghas—145 beeghas by 15 Hindoo, 33 beeghas by 6 Sonthal, and 127 beeghas by 23 Native Christian ryots. The ryots were found intractable, and the experiment was a failure. A farm on a Government estate at Balasore was formed, but it too has been given up. The Berhampore farm has also been abandoned. The Dacca jute farm was closed in March 1875. The Mymensing farm has also been closed. So much for the farm experiments undertaken by Sir George Campbell.

THE ONLY FARM retained is the Poosa estate. Various experiments have been made on the farm in the cultivation of the ordinary grains of the country, but, generally speaking, without much success. Experience seems to have proved that the farm will not be of service as a means of improving the cultivation of the ordinary country grains, or of diffusing useful agricultural knowledge. The growth of tobacco has also been tried, as it was believed that the cultivation of this staple, under proper management, would add to the welfare of the country. Experiments were made on the farm under the supervision of Dr. E. Brown in the manufacture and curing of tobacco on the Manilla process; but the results, though they have furnished some useful knowledge of the subject, have been financially a failure, and the produce of the tobacco is said to be of no value in the European market. Looking to the results of the various experiments tried on the farm, the local authorities have since recommended that the farm should be leased over to a private company for the cultivation of tobacco. But the Lieutenant-Governor would prefer to continue this farm under the management of Government for at least another season, for the sake of experiments in the cultivation of tobacco and coffee; and steps are being taken to procure the services of an experienced curer, practically acquainted with the Manilla method of manufacture, to cure the crop of the coming season. There is also another reason why the Lieutenant-Governor desires to retain the farm in the hands of Government. It is in contemplation that an Agricultural College should be established in Behar to instruct the people in scientific agriculture, and it is hoped that the Poosah farm may be of use to the Agricultural College as a practising ground. This project is still under consideration.

THE FOLLOWING statement shews the development of the Indian tea trade, exports being made from Calcutta:

	lb	£		lb	£
1860-61	1,425,200	153,034	1868-69	11,196,530	860,441
1861-62	1,860,080	144,190	1869-70	12,747,961	1,016,978
1862-63	2,031,840	180,130	1870-71	13,191,256	1,083,502
1863-64	3,027,760	229,182	1871-72	17,238,852	1,358,858
1864-65	3,346,080	273,475	1872-73	17,750,328	1,523,527
1865-66	4,476,160	226,506	1873-74	79,289,859	1,693,564
1866-67	6,959,174	362,703	1874-75	21,097,641	1,923,533
1867-68	8,634,640	683,067			

THE AVERAGE value of Government Currency notes in circulation in the Lower Provinces of Bengal from 1862-63 to 1874-75 has been—

	Lakhs.		Lakhs.
1862-63	242	1869-70	415
1863-64	249	1870-71	351
1864-65	281	1871-72	430
1865-66	290	1872-73	478
1866-67	284	1873-74	470
1867-68	293	1874-75	484
1868-69	396		

THE LANCET shews by a long list of medical men who died last year that medical men are generally long-lived. It gives the following obituary in confirmation of its statement:—In Dawson, F. R. C. S. Eng, 96; Peter Mere Latham, M. D. Oxon, F. R. C. P. Physician extraordinary to the Queen, 86; R. Stanly Ireland, M. D. Dublin, Senior Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, 96; Arthur Belsham, M. R. C. S. Eng., 60; Sir Chas. Locock, M. D., D. C. L, F. R. S., 77; William Beattie, M. D., F. R. C. S. London, 82; Rev. Webster, M. D., and I. P. for Surry, 70; H. M. Keble, Staff-Surgeon, Royal Navy, 84; William Bey F. R. C. S. Eng. of Leeds 79; Jas. Snow, F. R. C. S. Eng. Inspector General of Hospitals, 89; Rob. Law, M. D. Dub. 76; John Jobson, M. D. Edin., 86; Andrew Marison, M. D. R. N. 89; William Macdonald, M. D. F. R. S. Edin., 84; Francis Kiernan, F. R. S., F. R. C. S. Eng., 76; B. S. Murley, M. D. 88; Henry S. May, M. D. Army, 86.

THE FOLLOWING reads like a romance in money-making. We read in the English papers that Mr. Allen, borough analyst at Sheffield, presented a report to the Town Council in which he showed how unscrupulous the apothecaries were in the making up of prescriptions. To test the accuracy of the reports regarding their mal-practices he caused various prescriptions written by qualified men to be presented to certain local druggists and the result was that where 120 grains of iodide were prescribed 76 grains were given; in the place of 16 grains of sulphate of quinine one supply contained 9½ grains; another sample which should have contained 40 grains of sulphate of quinine had only 30 grains. Of twelve samples of glycerine, only five were pure and of the standard. Two other samples were somewhat below the official strength, containing 6 and 8·5 per cent. of water respectively but were otherwise pure. Two others were adulterated with 11 and 12 per cent. of water. Two were of full strength, but contained lime and some non-volatile organic impurity. Another sample contained a small quantity of sugar. Three samples of nitric acid were found to contain a trace of lead; but in other respects they were perfectly pure. With reference to 11 samples of pepper, nine were genuine, and two were adulterated in some degree with pea flour and rice. We wish the Analyst of Calcutta would make similar enquiries.

THURSDAY, 10TH FEBRUARY.

A CORRESPONDENT thus address us on the subject of the College Reunion:

"In your remarks about the College Reunion in your last issue you have I think hit the nail quite on the head when you say that "there was felt a vacuum possibly from the want of a common friend who could introduce the young to the old and *vice versa*." Now this is what was not felt of old, and should not be felt now. That this feeling is productive of a great deal of mischief in a society not much famed for unanimity, is evident; and to remedy this state of things should I presume be worth the most earnest attention of the leaders of our society. The cause is I fear due to some extent to our imitation of the English habit of Notation. It is natural that the English of whom it is said that one would not venture to rescue a drowning man without previous introduction, should inspire us with this feeling especially when imitation as a rule begins on the wrong side. The vacuum is not only felt as indicated by you, but even among members of the same class. The elders naturally expect that the young should first shew an inclination to court their acquaintance, while the latter do not venture to break the ice for fear of a rebuff. While with the young, nothing but absolute necessity will create a single new acquaintance with one another. That such a feeling is abroad can by no means be gainsaid. Now-a-days one would be thought officious and set down as a bore, who would dare to inquire about the name and calling of another. I merely mention the disease and shall hail with the greatest pleasure an effective remedy for it. And the sooner the remedy is found out and applied the better for all parties concerned."

KHELAT AFFAIRS, says *Native opinion*, are attracting the serious attention of the Government of India. A few weeks ago it was reported that it was to be made a division of the British army. It is now stated that "something vigorous" is to be done in that semi-independant Khanate on the Scinde frontier. A telegram to a contemporary informs us that two Panjab officers have been deputed to take special charge of Khelat affairs and that it is hence-forward to cease its connection with the Scinde Commissionership.

THE CRY is—still they come. It is notified that Mr. Jennings, Mr. Mackintosh, and Babu Pearychand Mittra have resigned the Commission of the Peace.

THE Act for Voluntary Registration of Mohammadan Marriages is to come into force in the districts of Dacca, Mymensingh, Backergunj, Rungpore, Bogra, and Chittagong on the 15th instant.

IT IS STATED that a section is to be added to the Bombay Revenue Jurisdiction Bill, now before the Viceregal Council, empowering revenue officers to make references to the High Court in cases of doubt or difficulty. But this will not mend the matter. It is believed that the decision arrived at is under orders of the Secretary of State.

THE THANKS of the Lieutenant-Governor have been conveyed to Sayad Abdul Fatteh, Zemindar of Chaugoria, in the Burdwan district, for his gift of books, to the value of about Rs. 5,000, for distribution amongst the schools in the district of Burdwan, in honor of the visit of the Prince of Wales.

REFERRING to the objections taken in the Bengal Council to the multiplication of objects for municipal expenditure the *Pioneer* says:

"The conservancy and water-works, to which the speaker would have the members restrict their energies, are, no doubt, indispensable; but the greatest Corporation in India ought, surely, to have something more to do than debate about drains and leaden pipes. Nor does his financial argument seem to have much weight. The only question it involves is, to what body are the taxes to be paid—the Corporation, the Provincial, or the Imperial Government."

Strange that the *Pioneer* should be unable to make a distinction between the municipal, provincial and imperial revenues. The people of Calcutta pay the heaviest municipal taxes, and if their burdens be again increased for the sake of providing luxuries for the rich, it will be most grievous oppression to the poor.

FRIDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY.

AT THE last annual meeting of the Asiatic Society the Secretary read a letter from the Right Hon'ble Sir Bartle Frere, G. C. S. I., K. C. B. stating that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales had directed a copy of the "Mahabashya" to be forwarded for presentation to the Society, with the hope that the Society would accept the book as a souvenir of his visit, and as a mark of His Royal Highness' high estimation of the great work the Society has done, and is doing, in promoting the study of all the important subjects to which the labours of the Society and its members have been for so many years directed.

WE ARE sorry to record the death of Mr. Willson, Professor, Presidency College. He was an efficient teacher and an excellent man.

THE SINDIAN bears the following testimony to the highly satisfactory manner, in which Babu Satyandranath Tagore is discharging his duties as Sessions Judge of Hydrabad, Sind. His "justness, uprightness, impartiality and independence have won him the regard and esteem of people of all castes and creeds at Hydrabad."

AMONG the articles in the fourth volume of the new edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* will be—"Calcutta," by Dr. Hunter, the Biographer of Lord Mayo; "Brahmanism," by Professor Eggeling and "Buddhism," by Mr. Rhys Davids. "Brehon Law," which Sir Henry Sumner Maine has already treated in so interesting a manner, has been assigned to Dr. Samuel Ferguson.

THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL at Madras, Mr. Lodwick, says the *Statesman*, is again in trouble with his subordinates, and is being sued in the High Court by one Iyasawmy Mudelly for damages on account of illegal dismissal, and for being maliciously prosecuted by the defendant. The plaintiff's counsel said that the plaintiff had been in the service of the Government twenty-four years, and had borne a very high character. Mr. Lodwick has an unenviable reputation for his relations with his subordinates.

IT IS rumoured that the Bombay Government have called upon Kazi Shahabudeen of Baroda to assume charge of the affairs of Kutch during the minority of the Rao. He will be placed at the head of the regency on a salary of Rs. 3,000 per month. The reader might remember that the Kazi spent some years in England and was a leading member of the East India Association.

THE AMERICAN PAPERS give lengthy accounts of the death of Mr. William B. Astor, who has just died at Washington worth £40,000,000. "He inherited a fortune from his father, and rose to be the richest man in the United States, his one desire to the last being to make money, and save what he had amassed.

SATURDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant Governor paid the following compliment to the Hon'ble the Raja Narendra Krishna Bahadur in acknowledging the support he gave at the last sitting of the Governor General's Council to the Mooktears' Bill: 'I've entirely concurred in the lucid and impartial statement made by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, and also in the remarks which had fallen from his hon'ble friend opposite (Raja Narendra Krishna), who, as the Council knew, was a native gentleman of the greatest knowledge and experience on this subject. In fact, his knowledge and experience in these matters were such as might be considered worthy of the high character and status he held in native society; and the Council had just heard, though briefly, yet strongly, stated, the opinion he had in favour of the Bill".

H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has given ten thousand rupees for distribution to the local charities of Calcutta. We believe the Commissioner of Police has been charged with the distribution.

MR. LAMBERT, the Deputy Commissioner of Police, takes furlough for one year, and that Captain Lawrell of the Preventive Service acts for him. Mr. Lambert's success in the administration of the Calcutta Police has been marked and highly creditable to him.

THE MADRAS MAIL says that His Highness the Nizam intends to expel from the city all the Soonee Pathans, a tribe which is continually disturbing the peaceful subjects of His Highness at Hyderabad. It is said that there are about ten thousand of these Pathans in the Nizam's capital at present.

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IT IS stated that Sir T. Madava Row has resolved upon establishing an art school in Baroda, and also factories for the manufacture of paper and soap.

IT WOULD appear, as the *Pioneer* justly infers, that the Mohurrum festival which ended at Hyderabad on the Monday last, has passed off without street warfare or bloodshed. Sir Salar Jung, it would seem, took unusually vigorous measures for the preservation of the peace. Not only were extra troops and policemen called out, but, so a Deccan paper says, the Maheedees, *i. e.*, the co-sectarians of the man who murdered the Mulvie at his prayers, were banished, for ten or twelve days, to a village about twenty miles from Hydrabad.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

Constantinople, 7th February.—The reforms contemplated by Count Andrassy have received the general consent of the Porte, so far as they apply to the insurgent provinces.

London, 7th February.—Cardinal Manning has disavowed the scheme for union between the Church of Rome and the Extreme Ritualists.

Penang, 8th February.—The British troops have ascended both banks of the river from Quallah Kangsa, and destroyed the village of Enggur, and all houses near. The Ghoorkhas have pursued, to a place called Prek, the Malays of Kota Lama, which town was the chief resort of the worst characters. Prek has been destroyed. No casualties on our side. General Colborne will return to Perak to arrange the distribution of the forces there.

London, 7th February.—The Princess Axexandra has arrived in London, from Copenhagen. Lord Lytton embark from Brindisi, in Steamer *Orontes*, which leaves Portsmouth, 1st proximo.

THE INDIAN DAILY NEWS was the other day offended at our using the word *sham* in connection with the elephant and buffaloe fights exhibited to H. R. H the Prince of Wales at Baroda, and suspected that we did not know the true import of that word. Perhaps we don't, for we conscientiously believe the sentimentalism, which delights in slaughtering poor domestic pigeons by scores and hundreds, and feels shocked at two huge beasts tusseling each other without ever disturbing the soundness of their skins, is an unmitigated sham.

WE ARE GLAD to notice that Babu Krishnabehary Sen, M. A, the talented brother of Babu Keshub Chunder Sen, has been appointed Principal of the Joypore College, and that Babu Srinath Datta, Gilchrist scholar, who has returned from England, after prosecuting the study of practical science for some years, has been appointed his successor in the Calcutta School belonging to the Brahma Sumaj of India. Both the appointments are good.

THE JUSTICES have resolved to take a Census of Calcutta in March next. We are of opinion that the work might have been deferred till next year. We are glad that the superintendence of the Census operations has been placed in the hands of Mr Beverley, who took the general Census of Bengal, on a consolidated salary of Rs. 1,500. Mr. Beverley has great experience in the work, and we make no doubt that he will avoid the errors which rendered the last Census of Calcutta worthless.

WE BELIEVE there is no truth in the rumour that Sir Stuart Hogg intends to go home in June. Sir Stuart's experience is needed to bring the new system into working order, and he can therefore be ill-spared at this time.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following publications :—1. Annual Report on the Administration of Land Revenue in Assam for 1874-75. 2. Report on the Revenue Administration of British Burmah for 1874-75. 3. Hand-Book of Practical Surveying for India. By F. W. Kelly, Survey Department, published by Messrs. Wyman & Co. 4. Trevendrum Almanac for 1876, published by order of His Highness the Maharajah of Travancore. 5. Tenth Report of the Charitable Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Calcutta for 1875. 6. Fifth Report of the St. Vincent Institution with an appendix and a statement of receipts and disbursements for 1875. 7. A short account of the principal charities and administrative acts of His Highness the Maharaja of Puttialla, G.C.S I., from 1870 to the end of October]1875. 8. Short Notices of the Hindoo Musical Instruments presented to the Indian Museum in commemoration of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales' visit to Calcutta by Raja Shourendra Mohun Tagore. 9. Jantra Kosha or a Treasury of the musical instruments of ancient and modern India and of various other countries, by ditto, ditto. 10. Victoria Gitika or Sanskrit verses celebrating the deeds and virtues of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen Victoria and her renowned predecessors composed and set to music (with a translation) by ditto, ditto. 11. Fifty Stanzas in Sanskrit in honor of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales composed and set to music by ditto, ditto. 12. English verses set to Hindu Music in honor of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, by ditto, ditto. 13. The 18th Annual Report of the Burra Bazar Family Literary Club (established in 1857) with the anniversary address and another lecture. 1875. 14. Statistical Reporter, February 1876. 15. Report on Tea Operations in Assam 1873-74.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1876.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

ON the 8th instant Parliament was opened by Her Majesty the Queen in person. The following is a telegraphic summary of the Royal Speech :

London, 8th February.—The Session of Parliament was opened to-day by Her Majesty in person, accompanied by Her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra. The royal speech said that our relations with China were cordial. It was considered our duty not to stand aloof from the efforts now being made by the Allied Powers for pacifying the provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina ; therefore, while respecting the independence of the Porte Government, I had joined in urging the Sultan to adopt such reforms in Turkey as may remove all reasonable cause for discontent among the Christian subjects. I have agreed to the purchase, subject to your sanction, of the Khedive's shares in the Suez Canal, and confidently rely on your enabling my Government to complete a transaction wherein public interests are deeply involved. Representations, made to China relative to the Burmah expedition of 1875, have been received in a friendly spirit, and I await the result of the inquiry regarding the death of Mr. Margary, firmly convinced that it will be conducted in a manner leading to the discovery and punishment of the offenders. I am deeply thankful for the uninterupted health my dear son has enjoyed during his journey in India, and for the hearty affection which he received from my Indian subjects of all classes and races. This assures me that they are happy under my rule and loyal to my throne. When the direct government of the Indian Empire was transferred to the Crown, no formal addition was made to the style and titles of the Sovereign. I have therefore, deemed the present a fitting occasion to supply the omission, by a bill on this subject which will be laid before you. A Royal Commission of inquiry will be opened to examine into the treaties, obligations, and instructions relative to the suppression of the Slave trade, and you will be invited to consider what are the best measures for punishing those slave traders who are subjects of the native Princes of India. I trust that the ability and energy displayed in the operation in the Malay Peninsula have restored order, and the just influence and authority of this country. The speech concludes by stating that Bills will be submitted for the regulation of the ultimate tribunal appeals and for the amendment of the present shipping laws. Legislation will also be introduced on the subject of the universities and primary education.

This speech has a more than ordinary interest. It announces in pretty clear terms the part which Her Majesty's Government have taken in Turkish politics. They have supported Austria in the scheme of reform for the internal administration of Turkey. In the debate on the address Lord Derby said in reply to Lord Granville that in supporting the Count Andrassy's note there could be no violation of the Treaty of Paris. Mr. Gladstone in the House of Commons approved the action, which Her Majesty's Government had taken in supporting the Count's note. There was an attack made on the Government for the purchase of the Khedive's shares in the Suez Canal. Mr. Disreali defended the purchase and pointed out the value of the Suez Canal in connecting the chain of the fortresses between England and India.

By far the most important part of the Queen's address was the gracious satisfaction, which Her Majesty was pleased to express at the reception of her "dear son" by her Indian subjects. Wherever H. R. H. has gone, the demonstration has been most enthusiastic. And not only where he has gone, but throughout the country. The national heart has vibrated with joy. The people were truly delighted to see the Heir Apparent to the Throne in their country. Such an honor had never before been conferred upon the country, and the people feel deeply grateful for it. Her Majesty proposes to confer an additional honor upon India by taking a title in connection with it. England and India would thus be united in the designation of the Sovereign.

THE TWO MEETINGS.

THE TWO public meetings of rate-payers, advertized for Saturday last, the one by the British Indian Association and the other by the Indian League, to consider the Calcutta Municipal Bill, went off satisfactorily. It was unfortunate that both the meetings were held on the same day and the same hour, and in such close proximity of each other, and we were not without fear that perhaps the two might clash. But the proceedings of the two meetings shew that the promoters of both came to the same goal though by different routes. The meeting of the British Indian Association was a representative one, it was attended by the principal rate-payers of the town, representing all classes of the community, Hindus, Mahomedans, Europeans, Eurasians, Armenians and Parsees, and their leading men took part in the proceedings. Not only did all sections of the native community band themselves together, but we were glad to observe that those Europeans, who take an active interest in local politics, heartily co-operated with the movement. The words, which fell from the lips of Messrs. Knight, Wyman and Jennings were most weighty, while the other speakers did ample justice to the Resolutions to which they spoke. Dr. Mahendralal Sircar made the most eloquent speech of the evening. We have neither time nor space to give a full report of the meeting, for which we must refer the reader to the morning papers. We give in a supplement an abstract of the proceedings of the meeting held by the British Indian Association, also in another column the memorial adopted at the meeting convened by the Indian League.

We have remarked above that from the result of the two meetings we are glad to say that they were held simultaneously and independently of each other. The Government has now before it the views of all classes of the people of Calcutta regarding the Bill, and rightly analyzed there does not seem to be much difference of opinion. The meeting of the British Indian Association condemns the Bill, because the Constitution it provides is imperfect and inadequate, and although the meeting of the League does not condemn it in so many words, it practically does so by the suggestions it makes. We are glad to observe that the League's memorial supports the Native member of the Council, who took an active part in the debate on the Bill, on almost all the points which he had urged. Thus the Native member had observed that it would be sufficient if the Government reserved to itself the right of nominating one-fourth of the Commissioners, and the League's memorial says : "Should the Government content itself with the nomination of only one-fourth of the total number of Commissioners, then each of the eighteen wards might be able to elect three representatives." The lowering of the franchise from Rs. 25 to Rs. 20 proposed by the League will not make much difference, and we therefore let it pass. We do not think that many would agree with the League memorialists that the candidates for election should have no property qualification, but in order to secure a fair representation of the intelligence of the community in the corporation the Native member had proposed the lowering of the qualification from Rs. 100 to Rs. 50, and the League memorialists request "that at least the standard of qualification be reduced from Rs. 100 to Rs. 50 inasmuch as the qualification as at present proposed in the Bill would exclude the majority of middle classes." The Native member had suggested that the nominee of a joint-family by the family or a majority of the family as a candidate for election should be accepted by the Chairman and the League memorialists say the same. Then the Native member had opposed the provision requiring the voters to register their names, and the League memorialists say that the "manifold objections" taken on this point "have not been answered satisfactorily." They add, "to throw on each individual voter the responsibility of applying for the registration of his name, and to impose on him the trouble of attending day after day at the Municipal Office would seriously diminish the number of voters. Much as they desire an elective constitution and highly as they appreciate the compliment paid to their intelligence and loyalty, the whole process would be so irksome as seriously to impede the success of the new experiment." Again, the Native member had objected to the provision multiplying the purposes for the increase of Municipal expenditure, and the League memorialists remark : "The wide scope which has been given to the objects of Municipal expenditure is positively alarming and as a necessary consequence the Bill threatens increase of taxation. Apart from

the general question of the capability of the rate-payers to bear further burdens, your memorialists earnestly solicit that the smooth working of the experiment of an elective constitution should not be clogged by obstacles which may naturally create frictions between the Chairman and the popular representatives." And lastly the Native member had opposed the power of interference and control vested in Government by section 22, and also the power of altering the rates given by section 58, which is a corollary of the other section. The League memorialists do not distinctly object to section 58, but echo what the Native member had said in Council in reply to Mr. Bell in respect of section 22. He remarked that "he had not the slightest objection to the constitutional power exercised by the courts in England; he believed that the Hon'ble member would not contend that the courts and the executive authority were in the same position." The League memorialists say that "they think that the power of control conferred on the local Government by this Section should be exercised by a *mandamus* obtained from the High Court. The Corporation is bound by law to perform certain public duties and the observance of their legal obligations can certainly be enforced by motion in the High Court, and there seems to be no reason why in this particular case, the local Government should exercise the function of an enquiry which may be more equitably done by a Court of Law." If this prayer be granted section 58 will necessarily fall to the ground. The memorial of the British Indian Association has summed up these objections, the only difference in the language of the two memorials being that the British Indian Association calls a spade a spade, and the League, while thanking the Government for small mercies, ultimately comes to the same conclusion. The truth is that no body of men, professing to represent the people and acting from whatever motives, could publicly come to a different conclusion. They would be then guilty of a gross breach of their self-imposed trust. It must be gratifying to the Native member of the Council, who in certain quarters evidently from a party feeling which we cannot too deeply regret, is traduced and vilified and charged with a selfish desire to keep power in the hands of himself and "company," to find that the sentiments, which he felt it his duty from honest convictions and in the interests of the "rate-payers and citizens of the town," to give expression to in Council, are practically echoed by the very men, who thus asperse his motives.

It now remains to be seen what action the Government will take on the subject. The memorial of the British Indian Association, which we are glad to observe embraces a wider range of questions, affecting the welfare of the people of Calcutta, will be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor by a large and influential deputation comprising all sections of the community. The deputation has been purposely made large, there being no time to get the memorial extensively signed, and the object being to allow the principal rate-payers of the town, who have a stake in it, to demonstrate their sympathy with and support of the movement.

THE EXCHANGE QUESTION.

THE exchange question is the burning Indian question of the hour. The steady fall in the value of silver is a matter of serious concern to us. Our currency is silver, whereas that of England is gold, and the difference in the value of the two metals represents our loss. It is obvious that the present ruinous rates of exchange are chiefly owing to the unprofitable trade so much complained of now-a-days in every part of the world, the result being that the exchange of goods is much less sought for than heretofore. Another cause seems to be the superabundance of money, which is in vain seeking employment in Europe and elsewhere. It is superfluous for us to observe that high rates of freight and interest are sure indications of a prosperous trade, while low rates of both the reverse.

An English circular of the 6th ultimo from a highly respectable house just to hand in reviewing the commercial operations of the past year, says, "the year 1875 will be noted in the annals of commerce for its prosaic tameness without a lively incident to relieve its sluggish dreary course." As to freights it adds that "they have ruled generally low, and have been especially unprofitable to owners of steam vessels." With regard to the money market, the circular observes that it has been well supplied throughout the year and at easy rates.

In the same paper we notice that on the 5th ultimo out of £380,000, 15 per cent. only of the Government Bills on Calcutta were allotted @ 1s. 9⅜ per rupee. This fact shews at once how little they are in request from the total absence of any inducement either on the part of merchants, dealers or speculators to invest at that rate of exchange. From Reuter's telegrams of the 5th instant we observe that exchange on India is quoted at 1s. 8⅞d. and 4 per cent. enfaced rupee paper at 87. The loss is thus tremendous. On the other hand the Home Government must have money to meet its requirements on account of the Indian Government; and either it should draw at a saving rate of exchange or come to a dead-lock! To remedy this state of things some propose that sterling loans might be opened by the Government of India in England. Let us see how far this would be practicable; and if practicable, how far would it tend to the benefit of the Government.

We lament to see in the circular referred to, as we were already aware, that the losses lately sustained by England in Foreign Loans have been excessive, especially on Turkish and South American Stocks. It is to be inferred from the discouraging accounts of the fate of Foreign Stocks, that any sterling loans opened on account of the Government of India in England at the present moment, will not probably meet with that reception which we could wish. It is true that British India is not in the position of Turkey, still the absence of the imperial guarantee naturally enough acts upon the public mind. On the other hand if a sterling loan is to be contracted, it must be placed in the market at a considerable sacrifice, and at tempting rates of interest, the present Bank rate in England being 5 per cent. Independent of these probabilities we cannot conceive how the Government in making sterling loans would adjust their dividend account with the East Indian Railway shareholders or others who are paid at a given rate of exchange upon their paid-up capital in rupee. In this case if we are not mistaken there will be a double loss in the adjustment of the public accounts between the Indian and the Home Government.

In our pecuniary transactions with England a difficulty arises as we have observed above from the great disparity between the value of the metallic currency of this country and that of England; that is to say, our medium of circulation is silver, and that of England gold, now getting unprecedentedly dear, the price of the day here being over 18 Rs. per tolah. At present silver is much cheaper than what it was before the late Franco-German war, and since its termination an immense quantity of silver has passed into the hands of Germany. She attempted to invest it in gold, and partially succeeded, and the consequence is the enhancement of the value of gold and the diminution of that of silver at least in Europe, where it is quoted 54¾ per oz. for standard.

Most gloomy as are the prospects of exchage operations between the two countries, various are the remedies suggested for obviating the difficulty. For our part we have given our best thoughts on this subject of the most momentous interest to the people of India. We are deliberately of opinion that nothing short of the co-operation of the British Government can rescue India from the dilemma in which she is now placed, and from the calamity, which we fear is imminently impending over it. Not without considerable diffidence would we suggest the issue by the British and Indian Governments of a silver English coin of a higher value than a shilling, which shall be equally current in Great Britain and in British India. This measure appears to us to be the only remedy for the fatal disease, which is eating into the vitals of the economic system of India.

If India is to be treated as an integral part of the British empire, as indeed it is, we see no reason why the British Government should feel indisposed to serve the interests of its teeming millions in a question of the most vital importance to both the countries. A uniform silver currency in India and the United Kingdom will prevent the serious disturbance in exchange operations from which both India and England are now suffering and will suffer more. May we venture to express a hope that our suggestion will receive the consideration of those learned in the laws of political economy. Need we say that the proposed measure appears to us to be promising by reason of the facility of procuring silver, of which there is now a redundancy in the neighbourhood of the United Kingdom, and which its proprietors are anxious to get rid of.

JUDICIAL REFORM.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE has recorded a very valuable minute on judicial reform in connection with Mr. Hobhouse's Civil Appeals Bill. It is so important that we prefer to give in this issue its salient points, reserving our comments for the next issue. Sir Richard Temple thus urges the necessity of establishing appellate benches in the districts:

"Another objection, which is much more recondite in its effects, much more difficult to describe briefly and categorically, but which is nevertheless very real and comprehensive, is this, that the excessive concentration of judicial affairs at the capital, Calcutta, has a retarding and demoralizing influence on the social and mental progress of the people in the mofussil or interior of the country. The administration of civil justice is, of course, important everywhere, but it is more important in Bengal than in any other part of India I have seen. Much of the hopes, fears, and interests of a large part of the people of Bengal are centred in the action of the local Civil Courts, and in the issue of the causes tried there. The existence of Civil Courts separate from the executive administration is looked up to by the people as a sort of guarantee or palladium of their rights and privileges; and in this sense the Judicial Department comes to be regarded as a popular institution. Many authorities may consider the growth of this sentiment to be salutary. The Native Judge is growing fast in judicial fitness and in public esteem. The Native Bar is rising above the humbler level which it once occupied, and if it has a fair chance, will become both popular and respectable. And these beneficial tendencies are much connected with the spread of education. But they are much interfered with when, at the instance of suitors who may either be rich, or prompted by a spirit of litigation, all cases, even relating to small affairs can be carried before a distant tribunal at the capital, far beyond the reach of local cognizance. It is commonly reputed that litigation is, in too great a degree already the occupation of the upper classes among the natives of Bengal. This repute may be regarded by some as an exaggeration, but I fear, after making all due allowance, that it is in a considerable degree correct. At the best, however, litigation must always be an occupation of great interest with them. It is often to them what the excitement of public and political life is in some countries. Whatever, therefore, tends to concentrate litigation at the capital, must tend to compel them to reside there more and more, or to maintain agencies there; and, on the whole, must divert their thoughts thither from their estates, their tenantry, their concerns, their local interests in the mofussil. Whereas for the social good of the country, the State policy ought to be rather to encourage the people to have their cases settled under their own eyes, advocated by their own local Bar, decided finally by their own local courts; also to encourage the wealthier classes to live on their own lands and among their own dependents, and then to become supporters of all institutions on the spot and leaders of rural society.

Again, although the maxim is never to be forgotten that courts of civil justice are to be guided not by what they may know or have heard *a priori*, but what is presented to them, still there is to be a second appeal on facts as well as law. It is well that the appellate tribunal should consist of those who serve in the mofussil, and are consequently conversant with the circumstances of the country, and thereby possess the best means of appreciating the value of all that is laid before them. Without the least disparagement of distant tribunals (to which it is admitted that resort must be had in large causes), it may be affirmed that in lesser causes a local tribunal, comparatively within the sight and hearing of the class s concerned, is more likely to command the confidence of the people, and to satisfy them regarding the dispensation of civil justice.

On the whole, I believe that the concentration at Calcutta of appeals relating to the lesser civil causes throughout these great provinces must so aggravate the inequality between the poor and rich as to render civil justice almost unattainable, or attainable with undue difficulty, by those who cannot afford to devote all their time and substance to litigation; must further tend to lower the Native Judiciary, to depress the native bar, to promote absenteeism on the part of the wealthier classes, to diminish the confidence of the people in the courts, and generally to retard the social progress of the country. In short, it tends to deaden the national life.

And the conclusion thus stated is consistent with the recognition of the national importance of having a central tribunal in the position of the present High Court, which shall be an effective appellate court in the larger cases for the whole country, and to which such larger cases, whenever either party may be dissatisfied, can be readily referred; and of which the rulings and decisions will guide and dominate the administration of civil justice generally.

Again:

"If then, some limitation of appeals must be introduced, if there must be in the mofussil or interior some finality of decision in the smaller causes, and if such finality must be absolute, without conditions and reservations, and subject only to the dispensing power of the High Court adverted to—

all which things ought, as I believe, to be secured—then there must be some tribunals established in the mofussil for this purpose. The question will still remain—are there the means of providing such tribunals? How exactly is such formation to be accompli-hed?

"As regards the means, I believe that in Bengal the Government is already possessed, or is rapidly becoming possessed, of them. The judicial branch of the Covenanted Civil Service has been improved. It is believed by many authorities that the competition system has given at least a higher average of industry and ability in the service. There ought not to be any chance of an incompetent officer ascending the judicial bench. From a comparatively early period in their service, Civil Servants now elect to serve in the judicial branch; and once appointed thereto, they are not diverted afterwards to any administrative or executive branches. The official life of a Judge in the Civil Service is now exclusively devoted to judicial work. The native branch of the judicial service has been, and is being, improved in a still more remarkable degree. Whatever may have been the defects in the education of Native Judges in former times, there can be no doubt as to the excellence of their training in recent years. The rules under which alone natives are now admitted to the judicial service ensure that the person admitted shall be highly educated, and shall either have taken a University degree in law, or have passed a severe legal examination. The pay and prospects of the judicial branch have been so improved as to render it the very best kind of public employ to which natives can aspire. The result is that the Native Judges bear a high character, and command the confidence of their countrymen generally.

One incidental advantage arising out of the appointment of Native Judges to sit with European Covenanted Judges on Appellate Benches would be this, that the status, the dignity, the position of the Native Judiciary, would be raised. The association of the Native Judges as co'leagues with European Judges would be fraught with many benefits to the Native Judicial Service, and would perceptibly elevate its tone. This result would be satisfactory to the educated classes among the natives of Bengal generally, and would stimulate those particularly concerned to prove themselves in every way worthy. The Bengalee character most shews itself to advantage in the Judicial Department. It is there that the Bengalees are most apt to be at their best; and it is there that they deserve in the highest degree whatever advantage can be given them.

The Lieutenant Governor's scheme is as follows:

"As regards the District Benches, it is, as already explained a matter of great importance, in framing a judicial system, to arrange that the Courts shall be easily accessible; that is; should be as near as possible to the homes of the people concerned. It would therefore be a great public benefit if Benches could be so placed as to give every suitor an appellate tribunal in his own district in which he would have confidence. I apprehend that little difficulty will be found in carrying out the scheme of District Benches. Only a certain portion of the time of a District Judge is taken up in deciding civil appeals, and he could easily set apart a certain number of days in each week, fortnight, or month, as circumstances required, at which the Subordinate Judge would sit with him to decide appeals. No additional establishment would be required for the Appellate Bench, and all that the State would have to provide would be an officer to take the place of the Subordinate Judge for as many days as he might sit with the District Judge. This would render it necessary to appoint nine Subordinate Judges at a cost per annum of Rs. 1,08, 000.

"On the other hand, there would be a saving in the cost to the State of the High Court, by the stopping of appeals to that tribunal in cases below Rs. 200, and other savings in the cost of High Court. It will be seen that the strength of the Court might be reduced by two Judges—that is by one Barrister Judge and one Judge of the Civil Service. In this way the additional cost of establishing District Appellate Benches would be more than counterbalanced.

It must be remembered that some objections have been urged against this proposal of District Benches. When the question of establishing Appellate benches was first considered one of the points adduced by the native community was that Native Judges, sitting on such Benches, would hardly have a co-ordinate influence with their European colleagues. It was apparently feared that the Native Judges so placed would not venture to differ from their superior officers, on whose reports their prospects of future advancement might partly depend. I believe that this objection would in practice soon disappear; when Natives are placed in an independent position, as these Native Judges in the Benches would be placed, they would immediately evince the requisite independence of thought and opinion. Then it was objected that among such a large number of officers there are probably some whose judicial abilities are not of a sufficiently high order; and it is not free from doubt whether a Bench on which there might be sitting a less than an average Civilian Judge, or a less than average Native Judge, would be sufficiently strong to justify the exclusion of a second appeal from their unanimous decision. This objection cannot, I fear, be altogether gainsaid, though it would also gradually disappear in practice from the improvement of our judicial establishments. One advantage of a Bench however, is this, that it could hardly happen that both the Judges would be indifferent officers: if the European Judge was not very strong, the Native Judge would be a good officer, or *vice versa;* so that there would probably be always one good officer on the Bench. If, however, the objection should be strongly felt by the legislature, then I submit that it is obviated by the alternative proposal of Divisional Benches.

One particular advantage of Divisional Benches over District Benches is this. Inasmuch as smaller number of Judges would be required, the Government would be able to select persons of undoubted fitness, both European and Native. There can, I think, be no doubt that the Government could, by careful selection from among the Covenanted European and the Native branches of its judicial establishments, choose officers to whom the duties of Divisional Benches might be fitly entrusted.

But inasmuch as these Benches would pass, when speaking with a concurrent voice, final decisions, and so perform a duty distinctly superior to the duties of any other District Court, for which duty, too, they would have been specially selected, I think that they ought to receive rates of salaries somewhat superior to those ordinarily enjoyed by the District Courts. I would propose, then, to raise their salaries *by one-sixth, that is, the pay of the European Judge would* be Rs. 3,000 per mensem, instead of Rs. 2,500, the ordinary rate; and that of the Native Judge Rs. 1,200, instead of Rs. 1,000, the ordinary rate. It has been just seen that one Judge belonging to the Civil Service would be saved in the High Court, whose salary amounts to Rs. 50,000. This would cover the cost of raising the salaries of eight District Judges of the Civil Service from Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 3,000 per mensem, and would so far afford justification financially. Moreover, this grade would supply a link (of which the want is much felt) between the pay of a District Judge, and the pay of a High Court Judge. It would be beneficial to the European Judges, would increase the attractiveness of that branch of the Civil Service, and would draw more and more of the abler men towards the judicial line. The increase of the pay of eight Subordinate Judges of Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,200 per mensem would benefit the native judiciary, and so far raise their status, all which is from every point of view very desirable.

The calculation needed for determining the cost of these Divisional Benches has been made. It is found that the work devolving on these Benches would be represented by 6,315 appeals per annum, and the cost of deciding these cases under present arrangements is made out to be Rs. 1,46,667 per annum. This amount represents the salaries of a certain number of District Judges (European) and Subordinate Judges (Native), and it would be saved by the establishment of the Divisional Benches. There would be no difficulty in effecting the reduction if the Benches were established, and in arranging the local details. Then, the gross annual cost of the Divisional Benches, according to the salaries which I have suggested, would be Rs. 4,03,200. If from this there were deducted the present cost, Rs. 1,46,667, which would be saved, then there would remain the net cost of Rs. 2,56,533. Against this net cost, however, there would be set the saving in the High Court.

As regards the Divisional Benches, with somewhat enlarged powers, there are advantages, in that the appeals between Rs. 200 and Rs. 5,000 would be heard by a stronger Appellate Court, inasmuch as they would otherwise be heard by the District Judge sitting alone; also because a part of the work of the Divisional Benches, namely, their decisions in cases between Rs. 200 and Rs. 5,000, would, by second appeals, be brought under the direct cognizance of the High Court; further, in that the District Judges, whose appellate work would be lightened, would have more time than at present to give to the hearing of original civil cases for large amounts.

But the additional work in the Divisional Benches would render it necessary to raise their number from 8 to 11, and would slightly enlarge the expense. And I feel quite sure that the local arrangements to reduce the District Courts proportionately to the increase caused by the establishment of the Divisional Benches could be effected.

In general terms it may be said that the changes and improvements proposed would cost the State, at the highest calculation, a little upwards of two lakhs of rupees per annum. But this is on the supposition that no reduction is made in the expenses of the High Court beyond the abolition of one Appellate Bench. If, however, further reductions can be made in the expenses of the High Court, then the increase of two lakhs of rupees may be lowered to one lakh per annum.

As we have said above we reserve comments for our next.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

WE have before us a scheme submitted by Babu Dinanath Sen for a School of Industry or Practical Science. The Babu is the Superintendent of the technical school at Dacca, and speaks with the authority of experience. He says, "the object of the Institution should be to train up men who will be able, (1) to manage mills, manufactories and workshops (2) to work, repair, construct, adapt or improve ordinary machinery; (3) to manage farms, conducted upon a system of scientific agriculture; (4) to serve as Railway or Steamer Engineers; or (5) to earn a livelihood by setting up small workshops of their own for manufacturing small hardware, such as cutlery, locks, files, screws &c., or for conducting remunerative chemical arts, such as the preparation of dyes, inks, varnishes, soaps &c." His plan is this:

PUPILS.—There should be two classes of pupils trained in the school; the first, at the time of admission, should have a fair knowledge of English similar to that possessed by students preparing for the Entrance Examination, and are to receive both theoretical and practical training. The other class of pupils may not know English. They are to undergo practical training in the workshop principally, with only rudimentary instruction in theory, through the medium of the vernacular. Theoretical instruction may be given to the latter class of pupils by the advanced pupils of the first class.

The question of fees may be left to be decided at the time the school is opened in consideration of the number of candidates who may apply for admission.

DEPARTMENTS OF INSTRUCTION.—In order to combine sound theoretical instruction with thorough practical training, the school should have three departments; (1) for theoretical instruction in the class under professors; (2) for practical training in Mechanical Engineering, under professional workmen, in a workshop furnished with a Smithy, Foundry and all necessary Hand and Machine tools; and (3) for practical training in Manufacturing, Chemical and Metallurgical processes, in a museum of apparatus, illustrative of those branches of Industry, under instructors, who should be trained for the purpose, at the expense of the school.

The limited funds that may be available at starting, will enable the school to have the Museum fitted up with illustrative apparatus for only the most important among the arts in which the pupils may receive theoretical instruction. Another apparatus as well as a model agricultural farm may be added as funds come to hand either from fresh contributions or from the sale of articles turned out in the Workshop.

At the beginning the pupils should be instructed and trained in all the branches of industry embraced in the subjects to be taught in the school, so as to enable them to earn their livelihood by following any one of them. The question whether it will be more conducive to the advantage of the pupils, or to the Industrial interests of the country, to divide them into batches, and give to each a special, and therefore more thorough training in only some of those branches of industry, should be decided after some experience is gained.

The course of instruction may at first extend over 4 years, and then fixed at whatever period may be found necessary from experience.

Theoretical Institution in the class should include.

I. *Mathematics.*—Arithmetic; Algebra, up to Logarithms; Euclid up to Book XI.; Mensuration; Trigonometry up to solution of triangles.

II. *Drawing.*—Geometrical; Mechanical; Isometrical Designing and Drawing of machines.

III. *General Physics.*—Properties of matter; Statics; Dynamics; Theory of simple machines; Hydrostatics; Pneumatics; Optics.

IV. *Natural and Experimental Science.*—Heat; Electricity; Chemistry with particular reference to its application to the arts and agriculture; Geology and Metallurgy with special reference to India; Vegetable Physiology and Systematic Botany with special reference to agriculture and gardening.

V. *Mechanism.*—Principles and Construction of machinery; Strength of materials; Mechanical movements; Motive powers, muscular action, gravity, wind, water, heat, electricity; the Steam Engine in detail; Fuel.

VI. *Mechanical Processes.*—Hand-tools; Machine-tools for iron-work; Wood-working machines; Forging, tempering, case-hardening, &c.; Casting and founding; Work in sheet-metal; Materials from the vegetable kingdom used in the arts; Materials from the animal kingdom; Iron, Steel, Brass and other metals.

VII. *Manufacturing Processes and Machinery.*—Cotton manufactures, including hosiery, from the production of the raw material to the finished goods; Jute manufactures; Coir manufactures; Silk, Tusser, Wool manufactures; Sugar; Indigo; Oils, Soap, Candles &c.; Paper; Pottery Glazing, &c; Dyeing and Calico-printing; Tanning and varnishing leather; Glass manufactures; Salt manufacture, Small manufactures such as matches, cutlery, hand-tools, buttons, steel pens, needles, &c.; Chemical preparations,; Electro-plating; Mining, smelting, rolling, &c.; Examination of ores, assaying, &c.

Practical training in the workshop should consist of the Processes taught under heading VI of theoretical instruction.

I. Practical training as apprentice under professional workmen in *wood work.*

II. Ditto at the *Forge.*

III. Ditto in the *Foundry.*

IV. Ditto in the use of the *lathe, and Planing, Drilling Slotting, Punching and Shearing,* and other machines.

V. Ditto as *Viceman, Engine-fitter &c,*

VI. *Constructing some small Machines* with apprentices but without professional help.

Practical Training in Manufacturing Processes should consist of the arts taught under heading VII of theoretical instruction.

I Practical training in the *Chemical and other processes* involved in manufactures.

II. Training in the manipulation of the *Machines and contrivances* used in manufactures.

The Teaching Staff &c.—The establishment to be employed may at first consist of the following:—

1	Superintendent and Professor of Engineering ...	500	Rs. a month.
1	Ditto of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy ...	200	,,
1	Ditto of Chemistry and Botany ...	50	,,
1	Ditto of Drawing ...	50	,,
1	Foreman Carpenter ...	30	,,
1	Assistant ditto ...	15	,,
1	Foreman Blacksmith ...	30	,,
1	Assistant ditto ...	15	,,
1	Foreman Founder ...	50	,,
1	Assistant ditto ...	25	,,
1	Foreman Viceman and Engine-Fitter.	50	,,
1	Assistant ditto ...	25	,,
2	Teachers of manufacturing processes to remain in charge of the museum of illustrative apparatus ...	100	,,
5	Servants (Durwan bearer, Sweeper, &c.) ...	30	,,
1	Writer and Librarian ...	25	,,
1	Sirkar ...	15	,,
	Library and Contingent allowance...	40	,,
	Total ...	1,350	,,

We have given the scheme *in extenso* in order to enable the reader to judge its merits. Practically it is a scheme for a Polytechnic College, and the expenditure we fear is much underestimated. It will require much more funds than Babu Dinanath calculates. As the *Englishman* says, "has it struck the projectors of this institution [redacted] to enable it to effect all that is p[redacted] must be on a very extensive sca[redacted]at it may be on a very extensive scale, [redacted] must be a very extensive demand for the work turned out by it? Under any other conditions, the institution would not only be enormously expensive, but recklessly wasteful; and, unless manufacturing processes are carried out in their entirety, and on a respectable scale, the practical value of the experience gained in it will be very small indeed." The scheme which was submitted to Government by Babu Protapachandra Ghosha more than six months ago, and which was circulated under orders of the Lieutenant-Governor to the Dis-

trict Education Committees with a Resolution of His Honor thereon, was much more modest, and to our mind much more practical. We give below the leading features of his scheme :

1. Each village pathsala to have a guru drawing, as at present, under Sir G. Campbell's system, Rs. 2 to 4 per month.

2. The guru to be required to qualify himself for a certificate either by studying at home or by attending a normal school.

3. In addition to the certificated guru, there should be employed a technical teacher on a salary of from Rs. 8 to 20 per month, according to the nature of his calling or competency. He is to teach two neighbouring pathsalas every other day, devoting two hours per diem either in the afternoon or morning.

4. The pay of the teacher should include, when practicable, cost of materials and tools required for teaching.

5. Where the tools may be costly, or where the pay of the teacher may leave no balance to meet charges for materials, a special allowance may be given, according to requirements in each case.

6. In no case, however, should very costly tools be allowed or costly materials supplied.

7. The technical teacher, where practicable, should be an inhabitant of the village where the pathsala may be located.

8. Each village pathsala to teach only one kind, or rather one branch of an art.

9. The neighbouring pathsala to teach an art that is allied or cognate to the one taught in another.

10. The guru to teach reading from printed books, writing, and arithmetic only. Mental arithmetic to be practised.

11. A pupil to continue his studies in a pathsala for two years only, that being the average school-life of a labourer's boy.

12. At the end of two years a boy may, if he or his parents wish, get himself transferred to another pathsala, which teaches the higher department of the art, or which teaches an allied art.

13. The works turned out by the pupils should be sold, and the proceeds appropriated toward the improvement of the pathsala, or towards the purchase of better tools and materials, and a percentage of the proceeds divided between the pupils.

14. After the pathsalas have worked for about two years, the best students should be appointed teachers of pathsalas, either in the same village or in some contiguous village.

15. Instead of stipends to pupils, substantial scholarships should be given to successful pupils, to enable them to prosecute their technical education in some new branch in some other village pathsala, or in a polytechnic college, or to acquire higher knowledge by joining a middle class vernacular school.

16. Officers of Government, and of private workshops, may be invited to visit periodically such pathsalas as are contiguous to their places, and to make suggestions regarding the mode of teaching in such arts in which they may themselves take interest.

The deputy inspectors and sub-inspectors of schools should be charged with the inspection of the pathsalas.

In giving agricultural education, the aim should be to teach the students the cultivation of crops of other districts which may be adapted to the soil of this district, and which may prove remunerative. A small farm, say five beeghas of land, might be attached to each school with the co-operation of the local zemindars or landholders.

The success of the proposed system will depend primarily upon the adaptation of particular arts and trades to particular villages, with special reference to the class or people dwelling therein, their callings, their wants, their resources, and even their idyosyncracies.

The usefulness of art school will be greatly enhanced if something like a co-operative principle be introduced in the management of these institutions. What I mean is this.—Both the teachers and the pupils, after the latter have attained a certain amount of proficiency, should be allowed an interest or share in the works turned out by them, and such a direct interest is sure to make the school attractive and popular. Whatever will pay, the people will learn; and when they will see that their knowledge and labour yield immediate returns or profits, they would readily see the practical utility of such education.

Another important advantage will be that small capitalists may undertake independent business when they will get skilled artists ready to their hands. At present capitalists do not direct their attention to this subject, because they find so few skilled men for work.

In conclusion, I beg to observe that the success of these art schools will greatly depend upon efficient supervision. I would recommend that an inspector be appointed on a sufficiently good salary for the supervision of these schools. He should combine a knowledge of the arts and trades to be taught with a fair knowledge of the vernaculars and of the general principles of science. The inspector should be one who should throw his whole heart into the work; and I am persuaded that if he identifies his own credit with the prosperity of the institutions, he will both deserve and command success.

We have commenced publishing the list of the arts and trades which Babu Protapachandra Ghosha recommends. Of course the list is not exhaustive, but it is sufficiently comprehensive. The object of Babu Protapachandra seems to be to improve indigenous manual industry, and there could be no doubt that there would be a good market for the improved articles he recommends.

ART SCHOOLS IN BENGAL.

By PROTAPA CHUNDRA GHOSHA.

III.

III.—Tinman's business.—Under this head comes the construction of lamps. Every European must have experienced the difficulty of getting a tin vessel of required shape made to order. This difficulty is felt much more in the mofussil, and in some places in the interior he rarely finds one who can solder a package or construct a packing case. The want is greatly felt also in getting an English-made Argand or Argyle lamp repaired. This is mainly owing to the want of properly trained tinmen. The art is simple to learn if properly instructed, and is easy to practise, as both the materials and tools required are cheap.

The business divides itself into three branches, allied to one another, and each school ought to teach only one of these branches of the art. The most expensive school in this group is the school for tining iron-sheets; but I have no doubt that it would prove remunerative, as there is always a great demand for what in the bazar is called double-tin. The working of this school requires a fund of at least Rs. 200 to start with. The materials necessary are iron-sheets to be tinned, say one maund of thin iron-sheet at Rs. 11, tools at Rs. 25, one cast-iron vessel called *tin-pot* at Rs. 30, and three other vessels at about Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 each. A small model furnace of mud-work at Rs. 50, and about Rs. 40 for block and grain tin. As the art of tining iron-sheets is new to this country, it would be difficult, no doubt, to get a competent teacher; but I am of opinion that if the practice be properly explained to an intelligent brazier, he could be made to teach the art and to superintend the working of a model workshop. At the commencement of every business certain difficulties have always to be overcome. The required fireplace of mud-work being made, so as to allow the flue to pass round the melting vessel or tin-pot, a quantity of block and grain tin is put into it, which is covered by some tallow to prevent it from being oxydized by contact with air. The second pot by the side of the molten tin contains only tallow, and the third or wash-pot molten tin, the fourth pure tallow again. The sheets are first carefully washed by dipping them in dilute muriatic acid, and then subjecting them in an oven to red heat, when the sheets scale off. When the sheets are thoroughly clean, they are dipped in the tin-pot, the tallow-pot, the wash-pot, and the tallow-pot again. The sheets are then placed upon an iron gearing, whereupon the excess of tin flows down.

The second school of this group should teach the art of shaping tin-sheets. In addition to the construction of such articles as are ordinarily made in the Calcutta markets, viz. boxes, cases, jugs, &c., the students should be trained up to prepare reading-lamps and parts thereof on the principles of Argand and Argyle. I am confident that competent tinmen, who have been trained by Europeans, could be found for teaching this useful art for a pay of Rs. 16 per month. This school could be started with a fund of Rs. 25 only, and would require for the first few months a monthly allowance of Rs. 2 or 3. To the students of this school the theory and practice of lamp-making should be carefully taught. Old rejected English lamps of varied construction should be shown, and the contrivance for producing a jet of air for the free combustion of carbon in the flames, and those for the protection of the flame from blasts of wind, should be especially noticed. The height of oil reservoir from the burning point, and the distance of the same in lamps for burning combustible mineral oils; the nature of the wick, with its drawing power, varying with the thickness or thinness of the oil to be used, are subjects which should receive particular attention. Thus the proximity of the reservoir of a kerosene oil-lamp burning with a large flame is accompanied with danger. By the heat of a very large flame the lamp has been seen to get so hot that the oil of the reservoir is volatilized, and the gas being ignited blows out the flame. In the construction of such lamps, care should be taken to so far isolate the reservoir from the point of the flame as to keep the temperature of the oil in the reservoir low. Tables of dimensions of air apertures in relation to those of the wick and quantity of carbon consumed per minute for particular kinds of oil should be practically studied in conjunction with the photometric value of each flame. Empiric rules could no doubt be had ready-framed for the guidance and use of the students.

The third is the most important, and at the same time the cheapest, school of the group. It may be made to confine its teaching to soldering. There are two principal classes of solders in use,—the hard and the soft. The hard solders melt at red heat, and are generally used by gold and silversmiths and braziers. They are—*first*, of laminated silver four parts and one part of copper; *second*, coined silver three parts and one part of brass wire, to which the native silversmiths add a small quantity of white arsenic to give to the solder a white color and to render it more fusible; *third*, a cheap hard solder is used by the braziers for connecting parts of large copper cooking vessels. This consist of five parts of tin, three parts of copper, and two parts of brass.

The soft solder most frequently used consists of tin and lead, where lead is generally half the quantity of tin. Fine brass clippings are sometimes used for soldering brass and copper domestic utensils, but to this some tin is always added.

The gold and silversmiths only use the blow-pipe, in soldering it is never used by the brazier, who heats the part of the article he has to solder by placing it on a charcoal fire fanned by a pair of bellows. In soldering tin, lead or zinc sheets, the *copper-bolt* is used instead of a blow-pipe. Before soldering the joints are scraped with the *shave-hook*. But in all cases a flux is used to protect the joints from oxidation.

The processes and methods of joining lead and tin pipes, as practised in Europe, should be taught, and the use of the *spigot-and-faucet* joint with a bulb of solder round it should be dispensed with. The ingredients of the hard-pale and soft-pale solders of the pewterers should also be taught. The soft-pale consists of two parts of tin with one of lead and bismuth. A solderer may be had to teach the art for Rs. 10 per month, and solderer ought not to cost more than Rs. 5.

IV.—The villages next to those where tinman's business is to be taught ought to have workshops for enamelling works.

The art of enamelling has been lost to the Bengalis. It is no longer practised in Bengal. The few artists who produce enamelled ornaments turn out very coarse work, and they are mostly North-Western Provinces' men. Delhi is the principal seat for enamelling, and costly articles of jewelery, such as diamond bangles, are sent to Delhi to be enamelled. The peculiar scarlet and purple enamels, which are so much prized in jewellery, are the works of Delhi artists. In Bengal, however, the rougher and coarser forms of the art might be taught with advantage; and as of late enamel has been used in many things besides ornaments and jewellery, there is every reason to expect that the teaching of the art would prove beneficial. There are two sorts of enamels.—the transparent and the colored. A good transparent, colorless, and vitrious enamel could be prepared with ten parts of silica, fifteen of minium, four of nitre, and one of borax. Some, however, do not use borax. The addition of oxides makes the enamel opaque. The substitution of the oxide of tin and of lead renders the enamel white. In Delhi it is laid on silver or gold jewellery by making a paste of enamelling powder with water, to which a small quantity of sugar is added. An excess of sugar, however, gives a brown color to the enamel in firing. With a small round-ended *pinch* the enamel paste is applied to the parts, and the design painted in colored enamel paste. The whole is allowed to dry slowly; and as the coating of enamel dries, with a setting *spatula*, the enamel is gently pressed and smoothed, care being taken not to disturb the design. The success of the enamel, and the excellence of the work, depend mostly upon the delicacy of the touch with the spatula. The blending of colors and the different delicate shades are made by gently distributing the paste. When the desired effect is gained, the whole is fired in a small moveable clay oven, something like an assayer's reducing furnace. This is placed in a larger furnace and heated. In some minutes the enamel paste melts, and if the setter had not laid the paste in unequal proportions, the entire design is preserved. But should the paste be at one place thicker than at another, the excess enamel runs and disturbs the design. The proportions of the constituents and the ingredients of the enamel powder are kept secret. But the students of the pathsala could be taught the art of enamelling with Europe-prepared enamel powder.

Cast-iron vessels and other hollow saucepans are also coated with a coarse kind of enamel, and this might be taught to the student with advantage. The ingredients for this powder also need not for the present be mixed here: the ready-made powder would serve the purpose well. Dr. Ure says:—"An oven 8 feet square with 14-inch walls, the crown 18 inches high from the bottom, might serve the purposes of enamelling saucepans. The cost of constructing such an oven would be about Rs. 40. The enamel powder consists of calcined and ground flint ten pounds, calcined borax five pounds; the mixture fused and gradually cooled. Four pounds of this mixture may be ground and mixed with half a pound of potter's clay with water and made into a pasty mass. A coating of this is applied to the surface to be enamelled, and is set by drying. Glazing is next applied. This consists of ten-and-a-quarter pounds of white glass free from lead, six-and-a-quarter pounds of borax, and five pounds of soda in crystals; the whole is ground and fused, mixed with water and dried. To about four pounds of this mixture an ounce of soda is again added. Some of this prepared powder is sifted over the pan while yet wet, and after drying it it is fired.

After the paste has fused, the glaze powder is dusted *upon it, and the pan is heated again. In this school enamelling cast-iron should be taught* separately, leaving the enamelling of jewellery to another.

V.—*Gold and silversmiths.*— The works turned out by these persons are practised by the same party, so both these might be taught together. But as ornament-making and making gold and silver domestic utensils are two distinct branches, the latter part of the work might be taught separately. But in teaching these two arts, the greatest difficulty which presents itself is the costly nature of the materials to be used. I think, therefore, that gold and silver smiths' works had better not be taken up. The proper use, however, of the blow-pipe might be taught in connection with enamelling and soldering business, and the recent improvement in form and construction of blow-pipes should be explained. A goldsmith of the village, however, could be encouraged by small fees to receive a couple of boys of the village of known character as apprentices, and every encouragement should be given to the student of the pathsala who so places himself in apprenticeship.

[COMMUNICATED.]

THE RENT QUESTION.

I. THE INSUFFICIENCY OF THE EXISTING LAW.

We propose to discuss in a series of articles on the Rent Question, the several schemes which have been put forward for the amendment of the existing law. Let us however at the starting satisfy ourselves that the Law is really in need of an amendment. We are the more impelled towards this preliminary investigation by certain remarks which occur in the last Administration Report. In noticing the "proposed special legislation" on the subject the report suggests;

"The interposition need not extend beyond certain limits. . . Within the declared area of interference and during the period of its duration (all which would be determined by the Local Government), the Collector would after due enquiry and after hearing both parties, fix the rates of rent according to the circumstances and *with such guidance as the existing laws might afford him*, and decide suits for rent both current dues and arrears. . . For these objects the Lieutenant Governor has with the approval of the Supreme Government caused a draft bill to be introduced into the local legislature of Bengal." Report p. 19.

The words Italicised by us evince, in our opinion, a misconception of the difficulties which the Government has to face. The case is more clearly presented in His Honor's minute;

"It is the fact that in some parts of Bengal especially the eastern districts the rent-paying powers of the land and the profit of the cultivation have much increased. The ryot is entitled to a large share in the benefit of this. The Zemindar may also justly claim a share. *The apportionment of the respective shares* is the main cause of dispute."

The minute prefixed to the Report p 11.

The subject-matter of the whole dispute is what is called "the unearned increment." The Lieutenant Governor distinctly observes in another part of the minute that the Zemindars "reasonably assert their right to a part of *the "unearned increment,"* but the question is whether the existing laws do afford sufficient guidance for an equitable division of the unearned increment for a proper apportionment of the respective shares due to the Zemindar and the Ryot. There is of course the ruling of the High Court on the subject in the leading case of Thakoorani Dassi, but we think we are fully justified in asserting that by the general consensus of opinion, the ruling has been set aside as impracticable. The judges themselves expressed in the clearest terms the unsatisfactory condition of the law and some of them candidly declared that they adopted the rule of proportion simply because, a better rule could not be improvised in the existing state of the law.

Sir Richard Temple seems to consider that the difficulty is one of "proving or disproving contested allegations on certain economic and agricultural questions" "by such testimony as the court must demand according to the rules of evidence." And it is perhaps due to this impression that he proposes to obviate the existing difficulty by empowering the collector in certain cases to "fix the rates of rent with such guidance as the *existing laws* might afford him."

"47. The object of the fiscal part of the settlement is to fix the demand upon the land for a certain period of years prospectively within such limits as may leave a fair profit to the proprietors."..... ...

48. This cannot be attained with certainty by any arithmetical process or by the prescription of any rule that a certain proportion of the gross or net produce shall be assigned to the Government and to the Proprietor.

But if the existing laws do *not* afford sufficient guidance, the proposed remedy will necessarily fall to the ground or will have to be supplemented by further legislation and by workable rules.

The question as already shown by an extract from His Honor's minute is one of dividing certain profits between two parties, who are at dispute. A wider latitude in admitting evidence, as proposed, can only facilitate the determination of the amount of profits to be thus divided. But the principle of division is quite a different matter and that must be furnished by some body. Suppose in any case the unearned increment is at last established to be Rs. 5 per biggah. How is the sum to be divided? The Collector simply from his executive capacity cannot come to a decision upon the point especially as the division must be uniform in all parts of the country. If the existing laws did afford any guidance on the point, the High Court would not have arrived at the impracticable rule of proportion nor would His Honor have satisfied himself by simply stating that the apportionment of their respective shares in the profits is the main cause of dispute between the Zemindar and the Ryot.

We ought clearly to understand the nature of the present dispute. Supposing the unearned increment to be 5 Rs. the zemindar might say "I want 3 Rs. out of 5" and the ryot might reply "you are entitled to only 2 Rs. and I to 3 Rupees." Or they might propose any other number. If the dispute were anything like this, a laxity as to the rules of judicial evidence might help the disputants out of the difficulty. But the question seems to us to be entirely of a different nature. The Zemindar claims —to avoid complications we shall say only a part of the 5 Rupees, but he does not know the particular fraction that he is legally entitled to. And the Ryot too claims—we shall say—a part, being equally ignorant as to his legitimate share.

In such a case it must be impossible for the Collector to arrive at any decision without "inventing" as Justice Morgan said in the Great Rent Case, some rule of division. And even if a Collector were to do so the division could not be expected to be uniform in different districts.

The adjustment of the rent rates between the Zemindar and Ryot in Bengal bears a close resemblance to the periodical adjustment of revenue between the Government and the Zemindars of the North West Provinces. If there is any difference it will be found only to aggravate the difficulty which occurs in Bengal. For in the North West Provinces, the settlement lies entirely at the option and discretion of the Government and its officers. If therefore any definite rule be found to be necessary for the revenue settlement of the North West Provinces it must be altogether indispensable in the adjustment of the rent-disputes of Bengal, where such discretionary power is simply out of the question. We quote from Thomason's Directions for revenue officers:

51. . It is better to acknowledge at once that the operation is not one of arithmetical calculation but of judgment and sound discretion and to proceed openly on that assumption. *It is necessary therefore to point out the object which the settlement officer should keep in his view* and the means which he has for attaining that end.

52. It is desirable that *the Government should not demand more than two-thirds* (subsequently lowered to one-half) of what may be expected to be the net produce . . . leaving to the proprietor *one-third* (or one-half) as his profits. pp 35-36.

Thus it will be seen that some such rule is indispensable for the adjustment of the rent dispute in Bengal. There is no abstract principle of justice which can formulate, in the shape of a numerical ratio, the respective claims of the zemindar and the ryot to the increased rent paying powers of the land or in other words to the unearned increment.

We shall have occasion to discuss the merits of the ruling laid down by the High Court for the settlement of these disputes, but taking it for granted at present that that ruling is impracticable, the conclusion is inevitable that the Law must be amended and that the guidance which the existing law might afford to the collector cannot at all be counted upon.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE HAVE received the following letter from Dr. Monier Williams:

SIR,—I hear that an article appeared recently in the *Hindu Patriot* asserting that I called the Bengali youth, who had been educated in England 'adventurers'. A reference to the report of my address at the Dalhousie Institute will show that I denied, that they could be called 'adventurers'. I affirmed that only good men would be likely to come to England, and that they would return to India improved in character.

I am, Sir, your faithful servant
MONIER WILLIAMS.

Lahore 10th February 1876.

Mr. Bell had corrected the version of Dr. Monier Williams' address, which we had quoted. But we are glad to publish this direct contradiction from the learned and venerable doctor.

BABU RAMSHUNKER SEN has been appointed a member of the Bengal Council in succession to the Hon'ble Doorga Churn Law. He is one of our best Deputy Collectors, well acquainted with the revenue system of the country, and possessed of moderate and sound views, and will be highly useful to the Council, when so many measures relating to the land administration of the country are before it. The only objection to the appointment seems to be that it reduces the number of non-official members. Originally the number of non-official members of the Bengal Council was five, to wit two Europeans and three natives, but it is now reduced to three.

THE FEBRUARY number of the *Statistical Reporter* edited by Mr. Cotton is exceedingly interesting. It contains so much and such varied and important matter that for the price it is sold viz., Rs. 12 per annum it is one of the cheapest publications in India. At first we were doubtful of the necessity of maintaining this State publication, but the ability, care and judgment with which it is conducted render it a valuable addition to Indian periodical literature. We hope to review the contents of the last number at leisure

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THE FOLLOWING official changes are on the wind. It is believed that in April next Mr. H. L. Dampier will revert to the Bengal Secretariat on the expiration of the term for which his services as special member of the Bengal Council have been retained. Mr. Reynolds will then go back to the Board of Revenue and resume his office as Secretary to the Board in the land revenue department. Mr J. A Crawford, Collector of Customs, is about to return and would resume his office, and Mr. T. B. Lane the Officiating Collector of Customs will return to the Board, but for some time it is believed he would be charged with some special work, and during that time Mr. Grimley will continue to officiate for him. Mr. Geoghegan again takes furlough and Mr. Mackenzie now officiating as Secretary to the Board in the Land Revenue Department, will be put in charge of a district.

AT THE last sitting of the Governor General's Council, Sir William Muir introduced a Bill to enable the Government of India to declare certain coins of native States to be a legal tender in British India. He said that "various currencies were in use throughout different parts of India, and that many and great evils resulted therefrom. The difference of coinages seriously embarrassed trade, and perplexed dealers in the markets where they were current." He stated that the state of Alwar has signified its readiness to adopt a uniform coinage and that His Highness the Holkar has entered into negociations with the Government of India for the same purpose. It is hoped that other native states will follow the example. It is proposed that the device on both sides of the coin would be different from that on coins now made and issued by a native state and that such design should be first approved by the Government of India. Moreover on all such coins the value in English money would be inscribed in English language, a provision required to secure its ready recognition in British markets.

THE NEW Mukhtears and Revenue Agents' Bill has been passed by the Governor General's Council. It is chiefly confined to the extension to Revenue Agents or Mukhtears of the privilege of appearing and pleading before the Civil Courts in rent suits. As Mr. Hobhouse remarked, the withdrawal of that privilege on the transfer of rent suits from Revenue Courts to Civil Courts had worked great hardships to both the practitioner who was excluded from the practice he was [illegible]ed to exercise, and to the suitor who could not, in [illegible] employ the person whom it was convenient to employ. The Judges of the High [illegible]; and that opposed to the admission of Mukhtears to the privilege of pleading rent suits before the Civil Courts. Sir Richard Temple after pointing out the advantages of recognising the status of Revenue Agents remarked:

"The improvement of the Bar (he used the term in its broadest sense), that is to say, the whole Native Bar, whether on the Revenue or the Judicial side, was a matter of great importance in Bengal; and cases on the Revenue side were becoming just as intricate and important as those on the Judicial side. He did

not know how far hon'ble members followed the course of local politics in Bengal, but it was probably known, more or less, to all that there were many important Bills pending before the local legislature which could not but, in some shape or other, be passed into law sooner or later. slightest acquaintance with their character and extent would show the important classes of business which were likely to come up in increasing quantities before the Revenue Courts. He would instance the amendment of the law of partition; the law regarding the management of joint undivided estates; the law regarding the registration of possessory titles in land; and probably, for in this case he spoke perhaps, without absolute authority, the law regarding agrarian disturbances;—were all more or less likely to be passed in some shape or other. These were four important Bills, and doubtless, owing to the constant attention given to all matters relating to land in Bengal, there would be more Acts of a similar nature passed from time to time. Now, all this would throw a large class of *quasi* judicial business on the Revenue-Courts, and therefore the Revenue Bar became necessarily an important part of the Native Bar; and it was but fair that they should have an equal share with the other section of the Native Bar in revenue suits."

The motion to pass the Bill was accordingly put and agreed to.

Thus a grievous injustice to Revenue Agents and persons interested in revenue or rent cases has been redressed.

THE MUNICIPAL BILL of Madras evoked a monster meeting to protest against it. There as in Calcutta the object seems to be the increase of municipal taxation with a view to relieve the provincial or imperial revenue. Mr. R. S. Ellis in introducing the Municipal Bill of 1865 had remarked, "we believe that, in the taxes we have proposed, we have gone to the extreme limits of taxation which will stop short of being absolutely oppressive." And yet it is proposed to increase taxation for objects which do not legitimately come within the scope of Municipal expenditure. The memorialists remark that the advantages resulting from the continuous growth of taxation heretofore have not been commensurate with that growth, but that increased income has developed extensive, improvident and inefficient establishments. They pray:

I. That no Town Duties shall be levied in Madras.
II. That Hospitals and Schools be no longer charges on the Municipal revenues.
III. That if a Drainage Scheme be deemed a necessity, it should, or rather must, be executed from Imperial funds.
IV. That greater authority be given to the Municipal Commissioners over their nominal subordinates.
V. That a Commission be appointed to enquire into the operation of past measures of taxation and the capacity of the rate-payers generally to bear the burdens now proposed to be laid upon them.

We hope the new Governor of Madras will give due attention to the memorial, which is respectful and temperate.

WE THANK Messrs. Wyman & Co., for a copy of the Hand-book of Practical Surveying for India by Mr. F. W. Kelly, Survey Department. It is specially designed as a guide and book of ready reference for district officers, planters, municipalities, courts of wards, and landholders, and for the use of surveying classes. Surveying now forms a branch of professional education in Bengal and the production of text-books on that subject is a response to the growing demand for such books. There are, however, as Mr. Kelly says, numerous and excellent works extant on surveying, but he adds they do not meet the peculiar wants of India. Mr. Kelly has compiled his book with especial reference to the requirements of India, and he has performed his task well and creditably.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE with thanks the following valuable musical works by Raja Shourendra Mohun Tagore:

1. Yantra Kosha or a Treasury of the musical instruments of ancient and modern India and of various other countries.
2. English verses set to Hindu Music.
3. Tagore's Prince Panchasat.
4. Tagore's Victoria Gitika.
5. Short Notices of the Hindu Musical Instruments presented to the Indian Museum.

We cannot too highly admire the activity of Raja Shourendra Mohun Tagore in not only resuscitating Hindu Music, but also bringing it to the knowledge of the European public. There is now we may say a growing appreciation among the Europeans of the merits of Hindu Music, and not a little of this wholesome change is due to the laudable efforts of the author before us. A man of wealth, position, and influence, with ample leisure, he has chosen for public benefit a line of occupation, in which he takes a special pleasure, and in which he has himself achieved a marked proficiency. The School of Music, which he maintains at his sole expense, is training educated youths in Hindu Music and diffusing among the educated classes generally a taste for it. In the books before us the author has happily chosen the subjects. He has made music the medium of a demonstration of loyalty to the Crown. We wish him every success in his useful and interesting career.

WE COPY the following interesting extract from a letter just received, from a distinguished savant in Germany:—

"You will be surprised to read in the newspapers of the religious movement in Europe, particularly in Germany and Switzerland. In order to understand the question it must be taken up historically. Papacy as an institution of imposture beats any thing the Brahmins have ever done in this line. Juggling cannot well bear day-light, and the priests were therefore constantly fighting against the education of the people. Ever since the French Revolution our monarchs were as much afraid of the education of the masses as the Roman Catholic priests, and therefore even the kings of Prussia, although protestants leagued with them, and in Austria it was the police that taught the catechism, or at least enforced submission to it. The more liberal ideas were progressing on the continent the more the clergy felt their importance as the power which alone was deemed capable of keeping down revolutionary tendencies; and in 1870 they thought fit to proclaim with the dogma of Infallibility the Pope as the supreme power of Europe, to whom to a certain extent every Government was to submit. At the same time the battle of Sedan was fought, and the Italians, who hitherto had been restrained by a French force at Ancona took Rome. In this calamity the Pope applied to the German Emperor requesting him to restore to him his temporal power, promising as an equivalent to keep down revolutionary movements. On the refusal of the Emperor, the Pope leagued with France. He openly excited the German Catholics against the new Empire with a view of opening to the French with whom the Catholics, even the German ones, sympathized the path to "revanche." Bismark saw the danger and took up arms against the Papal clergy. Since this time the parties have completely changed their positions. Up to 1870 the Conservatives (including clergy of every denomination) supported Government everywhere over the continent, and the Governments (particularly Bismark) were supremely aristocratic and enemies to liberty. Now it is the liberal party which formerly opposed Government on which it must rely because the aristocracy keep to the priests. What is called the religious conflict is there ore a purely political manouvre, and it is only the lowest and most ignorant classes which take it up from another point of view. The leaders viz., windhorst and the Bishops or men like O'Connel who use the ignorance of the masses as a weapon.

Taking a philosophical view of this phase of contemporary history we must above all bear in mind that our great thinkers and poets have annihilated Christianity. No sensible man or woman can believe in it. Yet it was and is still kept up as a political institution. It is indeed so intimately connected with our family social and political life that it is neither desirable nor feasible to do away with it, though it is the last remnant of the middle ages. Moreover, before it can disappear there must rise something to take its place, for the masses require some kind of religion. We may therefore look forward for a century of strife, attempts of reform, and compromises, before we attain what is wanted, which as yet is an unknown quantity. As much however is certain that Christianity in its dogmatic form is doomed. It is very significant that the struggle of the Germans the nation farthest advanced in philosophy and science reaches all over the civilized world, even in South America."

WE REGRET we could not for want of space publish in our last issue the correspondence on the subject of the Fawcett Testimonial. We give below the letters from Mr. and Mrs. Fawcett acknowledging the testimonial:

MY DEAR SIR,—I trust you will convey to the members of the British Indian Association my most sincere thanks for the interest they took in my return to Parliament at the time when I was a candidate for Hackney. I am deeply sensible of the generous kindness which made them desire to defray the expenses of that election; this kindness was greatly enhanced, when, on finding themselves forestalled by friends in England in this intention, they resolved to shew their confidence in me by placing the fund raised in the care of trustees as a contribution to the expenses of any future election.

No one can be more conscious than I am that the members of the association and other friends in India place far too high a value on any service which I have been able to render in Parliament to the people of your country. But if I have been able to do anything for India in the past, I certainly will try to do at least as much in the future.

The thanks which I wish to express to the members of the Association are greatly increased by the kindness which prompted them to send so beautiful a present to my wife. It is particularly gratifying to me that you have associated her with myself in offering me this testimony of your esteem for she has always joined, cordially with me in all my political work and has warmly sympathised with the interest I have taken in Indian affairs.

Believe me to be,
Yours very truly,
(Sd.) HENRY FAWCETT.

To Jotendro Mohun Tagore, Esq.,
Honorary Secretary, British Indian Association,
18, Brookside, Cambridge, 30th Dec., 1875.

MY DEAR SIR,—I wish to offer to you and the members of the British Indian Association my sincere thanks for the beautiful gift which has just reached me. The necklace will always be esteemed by me as one of my most precious possessions, not only on account of its great intrinsic worth, but chiefly because it has the additional value of being a memento of the affection and gratitude with which my husband is regarded in India.

We feel greatly touched by the manner in which his efforts on behalf of India have been received by your countrymen, and I am very glad to be able to tell you how much he has been cheered and encouraged by it.

May I ask you to offer my sincere thanks to the Raja Kalinarayan Rai Bahadoor of Bhowal for the two pieces of Dacca cloth he has so kindly sent me? I expect to receive them very shortly.

I am, My Dear Sir, Yours Sincerely,
(Sd.) MILLICENT GURREK FAWCETT,

To Joteendro Mohun Tagore, Esq.

It will be seen that the letters of both Mr. and Mrs. Fawcett are most hearty.

A CRY for the amendment of the labour laws comes from Southern India. At a recent meeting of the United Planter's Association of Southern India the question was discussed at great length. The planters are not satisfied with the working of the Artificers' Act. One speaker said that it was inadequate "for the prevention of the fraudulent appropriation of advances given to maistries and others for the purposes of engaging coolies for estates, and for the enforcement of the fulfilment of all labor contracts." He continued: "a cooly or maistry who offers to work, or to repay the advance, cannot under the Act be punished, no matter if he has all the appearence of evading his contract. He thought that Government was not quite certain as to the nature of planter's advances, and, he said, it was often thought that they were given to pay the coolies' debts to free themselves and make them work for the planter. Proceedings under the Act were in his opinion too cumbersome—what planters want is simplicity in justice, and when a cooly takes an advance from, and binds himself to another maistry, he should be brought up for cheating." Another speaker was of opinion that "agreements should be made legal whether an advance was given or not." A third speaker "explained the nature of the law on cheating as ruled by Coorg Magistrates, and said they would not convict unless it is clearly proved that *at the time of their receiving the advance* the coolies had fraudulent *intentions*." A planter suggested that the stamp duty for agreement for labor should be done away with. He held that the charge of 8 annas was too much for a cooly and remarked: if maistries could be induced to have all their agreements with the coolies made in writing—which they no doubt would do, it they were relieved of so heavy a stamp duty—he considered that these agreements would not only be received in evidence against the cooly if he refuses to fulfil it and fraudulently bound himself to other maistries, but they would serve as vouchers to show the planter that his advance had been properly given by the maistry to engage labour, and that the latter had done his best to fulfil his contract." Another planter however opposed this motion. He said, "he thought coolies and maistries made no great objection to paying the eight anna rate, and the agreements on plain paper might tend to coolies' signatures being forged." Another planter thought that "besides being liable to forgery by rascally maistries, agreements on plain paper would not look, to a cooly, of the same binding and serious nature as one on stamp paper, and he thought the advance agreement should be signed before the inferior magistrates."

There was thus considerable difference of opinion among the planters as to the measures required for the removal of their grievances. It was resolved that a memorial should be drawn up and submitted. We withhold comments till we see the memorial. We observe that the Southern Indian planters do not want the Bengal

law, for one speaker remarked that "the asking for a new law might lead Government to refer to other labour laws, such as the Bengal labour law, which put many restrictions on the planters and he considered it would be more to our interest not to entice them to refer to these oppressive Acts for suggestion of measures in our case." So the cat is out of the bag.

A CORRESPONDENT thus writes on the subject of the Famine controversy:

As the last of the lines regarding the late Famine does not appear to be out yet, permit me to send you an extract from a private letter which I had occasion to write towards the close of the month of May 1874 when employed on famine relief works and when anxiously watching the state of the crops and the people of Behar. I may add that I was one of those who gave the alarm so early as the 13th of October 1873, and identified myself with the distribution of relief &c., from the beginning to the end and up to the date when the accounts were finally closed. Thanks to the monopolising habits of the gentleman under whom I was placed, you will miss my name from the list of the Famine Heroes. I do not therefore write to support the Famine but to say a word of truth about it. I do not here also want to say further of the Black Pamphlet—as I consider your remarks regarding it wil have the concurrence of every body who has had any experience of the last Famine. But my object in giving the extract which follows is to correct if possible a very general error which is attributed to Sir George Campbell and Sir Richard Temple alike but which lies equally at the door of those newspaper leaders who like the *Statesman* induced Sir George to make an over-estimate of the wants of Behar.

In the *Hindoo Patriot* of the 31st January, you gave the following of what you say to be the candid confession of the *Statesman*, who believed Sir George Campbell's estimates to be too low: "It is just to ourselves to add, however, that we did not wait till January to arrive at this belief, but saw clearly the position of the people before the month of October had expired. In more than one interview with Sir George Campbell before the middle of November, we urged strongly our own sense of the heavy calamity that was impending; and there were but two points of difference between us. Sir George Campbell was disposed to hope much from the winter rains, the rains that were to fall about Christmas." In this he was mistaken, and we were right, now referring to what we wrote at the time on the spot, it appears that the reverse of what the *Statesman* has written would have been right viz that Sir George Campbell should have stuck to his original estimates and it is a pity that any amount of influence on the part of irresponsible writers should have induced him to change them or make his estimates as high as they proved to be amidst much that was dictated by a laudable sense of liberality, the waste of both power and money has been a subject of bitter comment. To avoid any blunder on this point would in future no doubt be a valuable lesson of the past Famine. The extract herein enclosed will however show that we have been hitherto crediting Sir George Campbell and latterly Sir Richard Temple with an error for which journals like the *Statesman* now appear equally responsible. Gradually it will be seen that this error did not originate with any particular individual. It was merely the effect of that general ignorance on a question of providential visitation the solution of which rested on no human forethought. However this or that journalist may take advantage of the general forgetfulness of past events to those, who took care to study the question on the spot by the light of experience the error in the estimates which led to the waste appears no more attributable to Sir George or Sir Richard than to the Editor of the *Statesman* himself. It was an error which should no longer be carped at, but it is one which if it would do any good should put us on our guard should any calamity similar to the last, unfortunately threaten the country again. But to the extract.

"The Famine was apprehended to become more widespread and intense than it has turned out. As soon as the rains ceased Sir George Campbell's circular went round, and I am afraid a little of his head went round too-everybody's head, I should say, went round but Lord Northbrook's. The estimates were made unnecessarily high. There has been waste of money and good deal of it too. Rice and grain were packed up to Behar without an eye on the prospects of the rubbi. It was taken for granted that the rubbi one of the main staples in Behar, would fail similarly as the Paddy failed. Providence however disappointed all calculations. In all South Behar the rubbi turned out a good average crop. There was "tremendous rain" in February, which favored the winter crops but "spoilt" partly the Famine. As a matter of fact there is no Famine yet to the South of the Ganges, * * * An opinion is thus spreading wide that the measures adopted by Government were altogether unnecessary. In this I do not concur. In a limit that the estimates were in certain quarters high and the waste great in others. But there was no harm in being prepared for the worst men, who do not see famished crowds at their own doors, consider that the Government committed a great mistake in its Famine Policy. They forget however that much of the present good state of the country is owing to that Policy itself. There is at present great scarcity. Tightness is felt by all. High prices pinch the lower classes widely. But for the large provisions in Public Works, &c., and the large stock that has been brought down to the spot, people could not have made head over the present difficulty and the scarcity would have merged into Famine. So far the measures of Government have been beneficial * * * The Government will not however be satisfied without talking that there is Famine *everywhere* and that its measures are exactly up to the mark!

In North Behar (north of the Ganges) however there has been real Famine. A traveller who went over the new State Railway from Champta Ghat to Darbhanga tells me that the country appeared really cursed. You see nothing he continued, but dust and dust, water hardly procurable within nine miles at places and for miles and miles you see nothing green not a blade of grass to swear by." Here (comprising the sub-divisions of North Tirhoot) the exertions of Government to break down the neck of the Famine have been really praiseworthy. The Railway which facilitated transport so much was planned and constructed within 2 months and in this Famine-stricken country Colonels worked like coolies, unmindful alike of the fearful dust and the more fearful sun of Behar!"

WE ARE requested to announce that the Hindu Mela will take place at the garden popularly called Raja Buddun Chand's Garden near the Talla Water-works, on Saturday next the 19th instant and on Sunday following.

LOCAL.

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE INDIAN LEAGUE TO CONSIDER THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

THIS meeting was largely attended. The Rev. K. M. Banerjea was in the chair, and the principal speakers were Babus Kalimohun Das, Rashbehary Bose, Amarendra Chatterjea, Kalichurn Banerjea, and Jadunath Ghose. We give below the memorial adopted at this meeting:

To

THE HON'BLE THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL.

The Memorial of the undersigned Rate-payers of Calcutta,

HUMBLY SHEWETH.—That your memorialists feel deeply grateful for the liberality with which your Honor's government has conceded an elective Municipal constitution for this city. They are well aware of the complex character of the experiment, and feel sure that it will never succeed as it ought, unless watched over by the favorable solicitude of your government.

Your memorialists fully understand that at the very beginning of a new experiment the Government (which now through its nominees has absolute control in Municipal affairs) cannot prudently grant a perfectly elective constitution without retaining some ultimate control over the Municipality.

In the hope that by their future conduct they will justify the confidence placed in them and thus merit larger powers, your memorialists thankfully accept the compromise embodied in the proposed constitution.

There are at the same time some matters of detail in the amended Bill which, without materially interfering with its elective principle involve restrictions calculated to produce much practical inconvenience and be oblig to the rate-payers, but which if properly amended, might, your memorialists humbly believe, conduce much to the success of the experiment. There may be besides some verbal alterations which in their opinion would make the intentions of the Bill more clear and less liable to misconstruction.

SEC. 5. The bill makes no distinct provision as to the liabilities of the present Municipal Corporation.

SEC. 6. Should the Government content itself with the nomination of only one-fourth of the total numbers of Commissioners, than each of the eighteen wards might be able to elect three representatives. Without any definite data as to the number of voters in each ward, the most safe and least invidious way would be to allow each ward to elect an equal number of Commissioners. Of course your memorialists take it for granted that the present electoral unit of the Police thannah is purely provisional and that when the number of qualified voters in each is ascertained, there will doubtless be a corresponding redistribution of wards.

Your Honor's memorialists while on the Section 6 crave leave also to refer to the fact that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are not necessarily included in the number of the 72 Commissioners, and are yet declared to the exsofficio Commissioners invested with the power of voting—the Chairman having himself indeed two votes in the case of an equal division. In the result therefore the Government Commissioners will be more than one-third of the whole number, and those powers of the Commissioners which require the votes of at least two-thirds of them at a meeting are virtually annulled.

SEC. 7. It is not certain as the words stand in the Bill whether persons contributing the requisite amount partly in rates and partly in taxes are to be entitled to vote or stand as candidates. Your memorialists firmly believe that it was never the intention of the Bill to exclude this class of persons. They would therefore humbly suggest that the words "or both" be inserted between the word "preceding year" and "to the aggregate" towards the end of Sec. 7.

They would further point out that the limit of Rupees 25 may exclude may persons who from their education and intelligence could be safely trusted with the privilege of voting. They would therefore respectfully suggest that the minimum standard of qualification for voters be reduced from Rupees 25 to Rupees 20.

SEC. 8. Your memorialist do not see the necessity of imposing a property qualification on candidates. Wealth and intelligence do not often go hand in hand, and the electors should be free to choose their own representatives. If they have confidence in one not blessed with a superfluity of the comforts of life, why should they not elect him. If your Hon'ble Council be not prepared to grant the above prayer, your memorialists would then request that at least the standard of qualification be reduced from Rs. 100 to Rs. 50 in asmuch as the qualification as at present proposed in the Bill would exclude the majority of middle classes.

SEC. 9. Joint owners may not be members of Joint Family, and there is no reason why they should be excluded.

The 2nd Clause of this Section seems to us to be equally unfair to the Chairman and the Electors, as it lays down no rules by which the Chairman is to be guided in his choice. He may therefore naturally be disposed to select that member of the family for whose opinions he may feel the greatest sympathy; and this for obvious reasons is objectionable. To allow an appeal again from a Senior to a Junior Officer is to say the least most unseemly. The Clause has likewise a tendency to swell the list of causes which already exist and which create dissensions in a family.

When the members of an undivided family or of a firm are unanimous their choice ought to be final, when they disagree, that of the majority should prevail and only in the case of an equal division of votes should the Magistrate have a discretion in the matter.

SECS. 13-15. Your memorialists are of opinion that the manifold objections urged in Council against the provisions of these sections have not been answered satisfactorily. To throw on each individual voter the responsibility of applying for the registration of his name, and to impose on him the trouble of attending day after day at the Municipal Office would seriously diminish the number of voters. Much as they desire an elective constitution and highly as they appreciate the compliment paid to their intelligence and loyalty, the whole process would be so irksome as seriously to impede the success of the new experiment.

SEC. 20. The wide scope which has been given to the objects of Municipal expenditure is positively alarming and as a necessary consequence the Bill threatens increase of taxation. Apart from the general question of the capability of the rate-payers to bear further burdens, your memorialists earnestly solicit that the smooth working of the experiment of an elective constitution should not be clogged by obstacles which may naturally create frictions between the Chairman and the popular representatives. Your memorialists therefore pray that for the present there be no additions to the objects of Municipal expenditure nor any increase in the maximum rates of taxation.

SEC. 22. Your memorialists think that the power of control conferred on the local Government by this Section should be exercised by a *mandamus* obtained from the High Court. The Corporation is bound by law to perform certain public duties and the observance of their legal obligations can certainly be enforced by motion in the High Court, and there seems to be no reason why in this particular case, the local Government should exercise the function of an enquiry which may be more equitably done by a Court of Law.

SEC. 25. Your memorialists fail to perceive why the local Government should have a voice in the appointment of those officers who have hitherto been absolutely appointed by the Municipal authorities.

MOFUSSIL.

The Agricultural Exhibition of Bancoorah was opened on the 1st instant. Babu Opendrochunder Mookerjee the Secretary thus addressed the Committee:

Ladies, Mr. Larminie and Gentlemen.

It is my very pleasant duty as Secretary to the Agricultural Exhibition to address you. This is not the time nor the place for a harangue and I shall therefore be brief for, gentlemen, brevity is the soul of wit (cheers). The whole exhibition has been divided as it were into 4 departments, viz., Live stock, Agricultural produce (including vegetables) manufacture, and "odds and ends." I may mention to you the splendid pottery works of Messrs. Burn and Co. the brass utensils of Godardihi, Sonamookhi and Bancoora. The gigantic cattle and huge buffaloes reared and bred in this district. In the department of agricultural produce have been exhibited various sorts of rice and paddy pulses and wheat (hear hear.) As most of you have seen the articles exhibited, I need scarcely dilate on their quality and their quantity; one word about the vegetables and flowers. The best were exhibited by Messrs. Rupell and Cornish (hear hear).

The idea of the exhibition which will be shortly opened by the President was entirely Mr. Larminie's, it was communicated to myself, to the patient Babu Siti Cunt Ghose and my able brother the other Secretary, Babu Kristo Gobindo Gossami. The wishes of the President met also warm response from the zemindars who came forward liberally and contributed to the accomplishment of the [illegible]. The foremost is that illustrious noble-man, the [illegible] Maharajah of Burdwan. (cheers).

The Babu then related to the assembly the story of the Italian Shoe-maker who told the French Officer, "the other shoe you will have in Paris, Sir," and the Babu continued: When such is the self respect and national feeling of the common shoe-maker in Italy, I only wish my countrymen in Bengal would set value to articles made in India and make them as perfect as possible. (cheers).

In the annals of Bengal the future historian will record this event as the first of its kind and the name of Mr. Larminie will be notably associated with that event. All praise is due to him. True there was the Burdwan Exhibition in Sir Cecil Beadon's Government, but that was a Divisional Exhibition where articles from five or six districts were presented.

One word more about the decorations in the streets and the ornamental gates,—great credit is due to Babu Denonath Ghose the energetic Sub-Deputy Collector. So in Sir Richard Temple's administration we will have the first District Agricultural Exhibition in Bengal. In 1874 we had the grain famine and, in 1876 there is plenty and peace smiling in the land (cheers.)

With these remarks I shall ask you, Mr. President, the governor of our district in behalf of the native community in behalf of the aristocracy and poor, formally to declare the Agricultural Exhibition of February 1876 as opened (Loud cheers).

The President then declared the exhibition open.

Mr. Tweedie then eloquently proposed thanks to the Department of Public Works for the preparation of the buildings in so short a time.

The Secretary again rose and tendered in behalf of the Committee their thanks to Babus Joynarain Das, Nobo Gopal Banerjee and Kali Prosunno Chatterjee and further said letters of commendation will be addressed to them.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	Rs.	As.	P.
Jessore Public Library	13	4	0
W. B Maxwell Esquire, Kishengunge	15	0	0
Mahomed Hossain Khan, Lahore	13	4	0
Hydrabad High School Reading Room	13	4	0
Secretary Rudaon Institute	13	4	0
Baboo Hurry Dass Mitter, Allahabad	1	8	0
,, Kissory Lal Roy, Bogra	1	0	0
,, Hem Chunder Barooah, Gowhatty	13	0	0
,, Prem Chand Dey, Chinsurah	3	11	9
,, Ajoodhyapersad, Orai	5	0	0
,, Hurry Churn Ghose, Bankipore	13	4	0
,, Rama Persad Chuckerbutty, Ampta	3	5	0
,, Sree Nath Chatterjea, Monghyr	13	4	0
,, Bhoobone Chunder Haldar, Darjeeling	3	5	0
,, Raj Kristo Mookerjee, Ootorparah	13	4	0
,, Netto Gopal Roy, Modhubanee	0	0	0
,, Nilmadhub Samonto, Sylhet	13	4	0
,, Dwarka Nath Das, Arrah	6	0	0
,, Shosheevooson Das, Cooch Behar	6	6	0
,, Ram Chunder Das, Nobigung	5	0	0
,, Aughore Nath Ghose, Garbetta	13	4	0
,, Nobo Coomar Bhattacharjee, Gooch Behar	13	4	0
,, Guroo Cunra Bose, Berhampore	10	0	0
,, Gobind Chunder Bannerjee, Gowan	10	0	0
,, Kally Kishore Mookerjea, Monghyr	2	8	0
,, Krishna Chunder Chuckerbutty, Mokesh	13	4	0
,, Mahendro Narayan Banerjea, Poorneah	5	0	0
,, Jodoo Nath Chatterjea, Agra	20	0	0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—*February* 9, 1876.

GENERAL.—*The 2nd February* 1876.—Mr. James Pratt Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mymensingh, is allowed leave for twenty-one days, under Clause 1, Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, from the 25th March next, to enable him to attend the examination for high proficiency in Bengali, to be held in Calcutta in April 1876.

Mr. William O'Reilly, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Buxa, is allowed subsidiary leave for three days, under Section 10, Supplement F of the Civil Leave Code, in addition to the fifteen days' subsidiary leave granted to him in order of the 25th June last.

Mr. George Abraham Grierson, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Dinagepore, on leave, is transferred to Rungpore.

Mr. Hamilton Winkup Gordon, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bankoora, is transferred to Dinagepore.

The 3rd February 1876.—Baboo Bhugwan Chunder Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is transferred to Gya for assisting the Deputy Superintendent of Surveys in conducting the cadastral survey in that district.

Mr. William Erskine Ward, M. A., Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Dinagepore, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. Thomas Smith, B. A., is reappointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Dinagepore during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W. E. Ward, or until further orders.

The 4th February 1876.—Baboo Radhica Mohun Roy is appointed to be a Visitor of the Dacca Lunatic Asylum, *vice* Baboo Brojo Soonder Mitter, deceased.

The 5th February 1876.—The orders of the 5th October 1875, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 6th idem, appointing Mr. H. C. Spry to act as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in the district of Chittagong, are cancelled.

This cancels also the orders vesting him with the powers of a Magistrate of the Third Class.

Mr. George Goodair Dey, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sarun, is allowed leave for fourteen days, under Rule 1, Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, to enable him to appear for the high proficiency examination in Sanscrit, to be held in Calcutta in April 1876.

The 7th February 1876.—Mr. Christopher Henry Vowell, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Shahabad, is allowed furlough for a period of twenty months, under Section 10 (*a*) of the Civil Leave Code. He is also allowed subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding thirty days, with effect from the 5th March 1876, or any day within one week of that date.

The 8th February 1876.—Mr. George Stewart Park is appointed to act as a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the first Grade, with effect from the 22nd ultimo, the date on which he assumed charge of his office at Howrah.

Major C. Mant, R. E., is appointed to be a member of the Committee for the temporary management of the Zoological Garden at Alipore.

MEDICAL.—*The 2nd February* 1876.—Dr. James A. Greene, Civil Medical Officer of Serampore, is allowed leave for four days, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the two months' privilege leave granted to him in orders of the 28th September 1875.

Surgeon-Major Francis Nottidge Macnamara, Professor of Chemistry in the Calcutta Medical College and Chemical Examiner to Government, is allowed subsidiary leave for three days, under Section 18 (*b*) —1 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from 1st December 1875.

The 5th February 1876.—Baboo Nilmoni Das, Moonsif, is appointed to be a member of the Committee for the management of the Charitable Dispensary at Bankoora.

The 7th February 1876.—Surgeon Henry Black Purves, Civil Surgeon of Darjeeling, having returned to duty on the afternoon of the 17th January 1876, the unexpired portion of the privilege leave granted to him under orders of the 19th November 1875 is cancelled.

Surgeon-Major Francis Nottidge Macnamara, Professor of Chemistry in the Calcutta Medical College and Chemical Examiner to Government, is allowed subsidiary leave for three days under Section 18, 2, of the Civil leave Code, with effect from the afternoon of the 10th to the 14th February 1876.

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Darjeeling, 7th February 1876.

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J. BLACKBURN,
Engineer and Manager.

January 1st 1876.

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History of the Hindu or Presidency College in Bengali by Rajnarain Bose. Price 4 annas, postage 1 anna. To be had at the Canning Library, the Sanscrit Press Depository, and the Adi Brahmo Samaj.

NOTICE.

Required for the District Engineers' Office of the Moorshedabad District Road Cess Committee an Accountant possessing the necessary qualifications, Salary Rupees 50 per mensem. Applications superscribed "R. C. Accountant Application," to be made on or before the 20th of February 1876.

F. M. HAUGHLIN,
For Chairman District Rd. Cess Committee
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Berhampore, the 29th January 1876.

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SUPPLEMENT TO

THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

CALCUTTA :—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1876.

LOCAL.

PUBLIC MEETING AT THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION ROOMS ON THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

PURSUANT to notice a public meeting of the members of the British Indian Association and other rate-payers of the Town was held at the Hall of the Association on Saturday last at 3-30 P. M. Every nook and corner of the house was crowded, and many we are sorry to state had to go away for want of standing space. The gentlemen present were the representative men of all classes of the community, Hindus, Mahomedans, Europeans, Parsees, Armenians, and Eurasians. Raja Ramanath Tagore Bahadur C. S. I. was voted to the chair.

Letters were read from Babus Heralal Seal, Keshub Chunder Sen, Kallyprossuno Ghose, Newab Ameer Ali, Mr. Elias Gubboy and others expressing their inability from indisposition and other causes to attend the meeting. We give below Babu Heralal Seal's letter, which possesses more than an ordinary interest :

Calcutta, 12th February 1876.

MY DEAR RAJAH,—I am exceedingly sorry that ill-health prevents me from attending the meeting which takes place in the Hall of the British Indian Association this afternoon for the consideration of the Calcutta Municipal Bill.

I have my own doubts and misgivings as to whether Calcutta is ripe for an elective system of Municipal Government; if it is necessary to secure the services of men of intelligence, ability, experience, and character, with a stake in the city, for the administration of Municipal affairs, I doubt whether the scheme proposed will give us this class of men. It would be a bad day for the town if the new Bill should place the Government in the hands of men having no momentous stake in it. This is my individual opinion and I may be mistaken.

It would seem from the restrictions proposed that the Government distrusts its own measure, that there is a lurking suspicion in its mind as to whether the people of Calcutta are quite fit for self-government, that it wishes that the Corporation should form a department of Government, and that it should be allowed freedom of action so long and so far as the Government might see unobjectionable. Should such be the case I for one think that it would be far better not to disturb the present system of administration, or to appoint an officer as the sole governor of the town with a distinct sense of responsibility than to call into existence a representative system which I fear would be nominal and much less effective for practical administration than the present Board of nominated Justices. If real progress is not possible, certainly retrogression is not desirable nor consistent with the declared intentions of Government.

I would however leave it to the meeting to decide what course should be taken in respect of the Bill. Whatever you and other members of the Association, in whom I have the fullest confidence, will determine upon as best calculated to advance the real interests of the town, will have my hearty sympathy and support. If the meeting should declare itself in favor of an elective system, I would certainly bow to its judgment, but I would earnestly solicit you to consider, that whatever system is adopted the voice of the rate-payers in the management of their affairs be really effective. To give the people an elective system though as a matter of course partial, and then to vest the Government with power to dictate to the Commissioners in the ultimate result as to the works to be done and the rates to be fixed is in my humble opinion inconsistent and opposed to the spirit of self-government.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) HERA LALL SEAL.

To RAJA JOTENDRA MOHUN TAGORE BAHADOOR,

The following Resolutions were then proposed and carried :

Moved by Babu Degamber Mitter C. S. I.

Seconded by the Hon'ble Raja Narendrakrishna Bahadur.

Supported by J. B. Knight Esq.

I. THAT in the opinion of this Meeting the Constitution provided in the Calcutta Municipal Bill is imperfect and inadequate as a measure of self-government, as it vests the Government with a power for interference and control, which are not compatible with a healthy and independent administration of the Municipality, and tends to render the voice of the rate-payers in the management of their affairs even less effectual than what it is under the existing system.

Before the Resolution was put to the vote Babu Nobogopal Mitter handed to the chairman a protest against the Bill in the spirit of the Resolution signed by thirty rate-payers.

Moved by F. F. Wyman Esq.

Seconded by Babu Soobuldas Mullick.

Supported by Babu Chundernath Bose, Pleader, High Court.

II. That so long as the Town remains charged with a heavy debt, its drainage works are not completed, its water-supply is inadequate to meet the requirements of the inhabitants, and other pressing works are left unexecuted for want of funds, it is inexpedient to increase the power of the Municipal Commissioners for appropriating the municipal fund to objects not coming legitimately under municipal control, or of secondary importance, some of which are at present met by the imperial or provincial revenue, which ought not to be relieved at the expense of the Municipality.

Moved by F. Jennings Esq., Master of the Trades' Association.

Seconded by Babu Narendranath Sen, Attorney-at-Law.

III. That the union of the functions of the Chairman of the Commissioners and Commissioner of Police is detrimental to the efficiency of both the offices and leads to a centralization of authority not consistent with the liberty of the subject.

Moved by Babu Debendra Mullick.

Seconded by Dr. Mahendralal Sircar.

IV. That the provisions in the Bill limiting the high-pressure supply of water to three out of twenty-four hours, and requiring private necessaries to be furnished with cisterns, which will necessarily stint the supply of water for flushing the same, are inconsistent with the pledge given by law to keep up a constant supply at high pressure for seventeen out of twenty-four hours, and calculated to deprive the town of the full benefits legitimately expected from the water-works, and of the advantages of the improved drainage system now in operation.

Moved by Babu Judulal Mullick.

Seconded by Prince Hormuz Shah, Mysore Family.

V. That the withdrawal from the Municipal Commissioners of an effective voice in the regulation of Police expenditure is a retrograde movement and not in consonance with the principle of self-government, which it is the professed object of the Bill to introduce.

Moved by W. C. Bonnerjee, Esq., Barrister-at-law.

Seconded by Babu Dwarkanath Biswas.

VI. That while this Meeting desires all necessary improvements in bustees, it is of opinion that the extent of interference which the Bill contemplates without giving any compensation to owners is not consistent with the rights of private property and not recognized even in the advanced Municipalities of Great Britain.

Moved by Manickjee Rustomjee Esq.

Seconded by Mir Mahomed Ali.

VII. That the following Memorial to the Hon'ble the Lieutenant Governor in Council be adopted and presented to His Honor, signed by the Honorary Secretary to the British Indian Association.

To

THE HON'BLE THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF BENGAL IN COUNCIL,

The humble memorial of the members of the British Indian Association and others, being rate-payers of the town of Calcutta in public meeting assembled,

SHEWETH,—THAT Your Memorialists have perused the Calcutta Municipal Bill as provisionally settled by Your Honor's Council for making laws and regulations, and are grieved to find that the Constitution provided in it is imperfect and inadequate as a measure of self-government, inasmuch as it vests the Government with a power for interference and control, which are not compatible with a healthy and independent administration of the Municipality, and tends to render the voice of the rate-payers in the management of their affairs even more ineffective than it is under the existing system.

That Your Memorialists fully appreciate the laudable object of Your Honor in Council to give the people of Calcutta the privilege of local self-government; but they, respectfully submit that that object cannot be attained under the restrictions proposed for they feel convinced that there can be no legitimate self-government if the proceedings of the Corporation be interfered with and controlled by the local Government in the manner provided in the Bill.

That Your Memorialists readily admit that, considering the peculiar circumstances of Calcutta society, it is necessary that the Government should have a proper influence in the deliberations of the Corporation, but they venture to think that that influence would be sufficiently exercised through the Chairman, who will be the nominee and representative of Government, as also through those members, who will be appointed by Government, being one-third of the total number, and between whom and the Government there would be, by reason of their appointment by Government, to quote the words of Your Honor in Council, "a community of sentiment and opinion." There would be thus a fair and full representation of the views and opinions of Government in the Corporation, and if, notwithstanding such representation, the elected members should in any matter come to a decision contrary to the opinions and wishes of Government, nothing could be more reasonable or just than that such decision should be allowed free scope, for if the Government really wishes to give the rate-payers a truly effective voice in the management of their affairs, that object cannot be attained by putting their representatives in a state of continual dependence upon Government.

That the present complaint is that the Government indirectly interferes with the action of the non-official Justices by outnumbering them by the appointment of persons, who look more to the wishes of Government, or its representative the Chairman, than to the interests of the rate-payers, and to remedy this defect what is most urgently wanted is that a limit should be put to such appointments. But the scheme proposed in the Bill, though it professes to give the privilege of self-government to the rate-payers, would practically deprive them of all healthy influence in the management and control of the Municipality.

That it might be urged as indeed it was urged in Council, that the Government would not hastily or rashly interfere with the proceedings of a representative or rather partially representative, body, that it might interfere in extreme cases, and that the matters in which it might exercise its authority being well-defined, and being those, which the Commissioners would be absolutely required by law to attend to, such interference could not but be to the advantage of the rate-payers. But your memorialists respectfully submit that never was there a less cause for interference by Government in the management of municipal matters in Calcutta than now. The principles of the great questions of local improvement have been settled, and all that the Municipal Commissioners are required to do is the completion and maintenance of the works already determined upon. The drainage system has been already extended to the greater part of the town, and its completion has been sanctioned; a scheme of water-supply has been introduced; an abbatoir has been built for the supply of healthy meat, and two municipal markets are maintained to meet the requirements of particular sections of the community; a fire-brigade has been formed for the prevention and extinction of fires, while a machinery has been organized for the suppression or regulation of dangerous trades and manufactures. It now devolves upon the Municipality to complete and maintain the works that have already been executed, or are in course of execution, and if, as Your Honor was pleased to say in Council, the Government has "much confidence" in the people, their representatives, Your Memorialists venture to think, cannot reasonably be deemed unworthy of confidence in the discharge of the limited functions, which they will be called upon to exercise. It may fairly be assumed that, if sufficient confidence be reposed on the Commissioners, so that they may undertake their duties

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with a full sense of their responsibility and without any sacrifice of their self-respect, the persons who will offer themselves for election will belong to the same class and standing in society from which the Government has hitherto nominated Justices.

That it is apprehended that under the restrictions proposed really able and conscientious men, upon whom the ratepayers would fully rely, would not offer themselves as candidates for election, and the result will be that men will be elected who would not command the confidence of the people, and the experiment of elective Commissioners, Your Memorialists fear, will prove a failure as it did on a former occasion.

That so long as the town remains charged with a heavy debt, its drainage works are not completed, its water-supply is inadequate to meet the requirements of the inhabitants, and other pressing works are left unexecuted for want of funds, it is inexpedient to increase the power of the Municipal Commissioners for appropriating the Municipal fund to objects not coming legitimately under Municipal control, or of secondary importance, and some of which are at present met by the imperial or provincial revenue, which ought not to be relieved at the expense of the Municipality. Your Memorialists are ready to acknowledge that some of the additional purposes to which the municipal fund is declared applicable, are in themselves desirable under particular circumstances, but they are not of primary importance, and to provide funds for their execution would necessitate the maintenance of the rates at their maximum figures. Calcutta, as Your Honor in Council is well aware, is already heavily taxed; in fact, the pressure of taxation upon no other Indian city is higher than what it is upon this; the Government has repeatedly acknowledged this fact, and expressed a desire not to increase the burdens upon it, but the inclusion of the additional purposes for the application of the municipal fund enumerated in Section 19 would necessarily result in additional taxation. It is true that the power given is permissive, and it might be said that the Municipal Commissioners in exercising that power would presumably consult the wishes of their constituents, but it needs be borne in mind that the mass of the rate-payers would be unrepresented. The population of Calcutta numbers about four lacs and a half, while the enfranchised constituency, according to official estimate, would represent a body of about 13,000 rate-payers, and it is the unrepresented poor upon whom the burden of taxation will press the most. Besides, it would not be fair to throw charges upon the Municipality, which are at present borne by the provincial or imperial revenue, but such Your Memorialists fear would be the case under the operation of the clause under comment. At present the load of taxation upon both owners and occupiers of houses and lands has been greatly increased by the recent revision of assessments, and the levy of the maximum rates would greatly add to the hardships already sustained by a large body of rate-payers.

That in the humble judgment of Your Memorialist the union of the functions of the Chairman of the Municipal Commissioners and Commissioner of Police is detrimental to the efficiency of both the offices, and leads to a centralization of authority not consistent with the liberty of the subject. This truth has been amply illustrated in the working of the dual functions in the person of the same officer since the union of the two offices has been made. That the Government is not altogether insensible of the disadvantages of the existing system is apparent from the fact that when the public mind was somewhat unhinged by the diabolical attacks upon two highest functionaries of the State, and rumours of a politico-financial conspiracy were afloat, the Government thought fit to separate the two offices, and recalled to the head of the Police the most experienced Police officer in the service, on a higher salary, for the reform of the Police. It would be a calamity to the capital if, owing to divided responsibility between the Commissioner of Police and his Deputy, the Police should suffer in efficiency, and public safety should in consequence be endangered. As for the injurious effect of this centralization of authority upon the moral spirit of the community, particularly upon the native population, who, being weak and undemonstrative, dread the Police far more than people nurtured in free institutions, it may be better imagined than described. It cannot but be demoralizing and pernicious that the acts of the executive head of the Municipality should have a spurious importance because of the position he occupies as the head of the Police. The practical mischief of this combination of functions was sadly exemplified in the struggle between the executive of the Municipality and the proprietors of the Dhurmtollah Market in respect of the establishment of the Municipal Market, and the charges which were, in consequence, brought in the High Court against the former.

That Your Memorialists humbly consider the withdrawal from the Municipal Commissioners of an effective voice in the regulation of Police expenditure a retrograde move, and inconsistent with the spirit of self-government, which it is the professed object of the Bill under notice to foster. Your Memorialists readily allow that in the organization and administration of the Police of the metropolis of the empire the Government ought to have a direct authority and control, but the power vested in the Justices under the existing law for the regulation of Police expenditure has not proved detrimental to that authority, or to the efficient and smooth working of the Police, and your Memorialists therefore fail to see any good or valid reason for the withdrawal of the power in question. On the other hand Your Memorialists venture to submit that if the rate-payers are to pay for the maintenance of the Police, it is but reasonable and fair that their representatives should have a voice in the expenditure of their money.

That the provisions in the Bill limiting the high-pressure supply of water to three out of twenty-four hours, and requiring private necessaries to be furnished with cisterns, which will necessarily stint the supply of water for flushing the same, are inconsistent with the pledge originally given to keep up a constant supply at high pressure for seventeen hours, and in reliance upon which many rate-payers have incurred heavy expenses in laying extensive systems of pipes in their houses, calculated to deprive the town of the full benefits legitimately expected from the water-supply, and of the advantages of the drainage system now in operation. It is superfluous for Your Memorialists to remind Your Honor in Council that when the present system of water-supply was introduced at a cost of nearly three quarters of a million, it was distinctly understood that the inhabitants should receive a constant supply, and the public cannot but regard it as a breach of faith that this condition is to be set aside. It is also observable that the success of the drainage system is dependant upon a diffuse water-supply, but the limitation of high pressure supply to three hours will necessarily deprive the residents of water for flushing their necessaries, not to say that the necessaries, in the majority of native houses, are so constructed that it will not be convenient to put up large cisterns therein; that even if the cisterns were fixed, still the supply would be scanty and would be soon exhausted, and that double fittings for the supply of filtered water for drinking purposes, and of unfiltered water for domestic purposes, would be doubly expensive, not unfrequently beyond the means of the poorer classes.

That while Your Memorialists desire all necessary improvements in bustees, they are humbly of opinion that the extent of interference which the Bill contemplates without giving any compensation to owners is not consistent with the rights of private property, and not recognized even in the advanced Municipalities of Great Britain. The Bill requires that the owner shall provide a necessary to each holding, and shall, on the report of two medical officers, remove huts, make roads, drains, and sewers, and fill up the low lands, and all this will involve heavy and in cases of poor owners, ruinous expense. The roads must be metalled, if conservancy carts are to go in; the sewers must be connected with water, if they are to work, and earth must be imported from a distance, as it cannot be had in the town, if the low lands are to be filled up, not to mention the other improvements enjoined in the Bill. As these improvements are not required for the benefit of the tenants only, but of the town generally, Your Memorialists respectfully submit that due compensation ought to be allowed to owners. They believe that such compensation is allowed in England under the new Parliamentary Act for the improvement of artizans' dwellings—an analogous subject.

That in conclusion Your Memorialists pray that Your Honor in Council will be pleased to take into consideration the foregoing remarks and suggestions and to omit or amend in the way proposed, or in such other way as to Your Honor in Council may seem fit, the Sections specified below:

Section 8. That the word "fifty" be substituted in lieu of "one hundred" in last line.

Section 13 and 14. That these sections be omitted, and that the Chairman of the Commissioners be required to prepare a list of voters as provided in the Bombay Municipal Act.

Sections 20 and 22. That these sections be omitted.

Section 24. That the last paragraph of this section be omitted.

Section 26. That clause *b*. of this section be omitted.

Section 58. That this section be omitted.

Section 125. That this section be omitted, and that the provision of the existing law on the subject be re-introduced.

Section 129. That this be omitted.

Chapter VIII. That this chapter be amended in accordance with the provisions of the existing law on the subject.

Section 240, 251, 268, 272, 273, and 274. That these sections may be so modified as to provide that the cost of improvements to the owner shall under any circumstance not exceed two years' rental of the land proposed to be improved, and that should the expenses exceed that maximum, compensation should be given to the owner.

And Your Memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

Babu Judulal Mullick proposed that the section sanctioning the grant of pensions to municipal officers be objected to, but the meeting being of opinion that it was a matter of detail, which might fitly be left to the discretion of the Commissioners, he withdrew his motion. The memorial was accordingly agreed to.

Moved by A. M. Vardon Esq.
Seconded by Dr. Von Lintzy.

That the following gentlemen be requested to form a Deputation to wait upon His Honor the Lieutenant Governor for the purpose of presenting the memorial adopted at this meeting.

Raja Rammanath Tagore Bahadoor C.S.I., Babu Degumber Mitter C.S.I., The Hon'ble Raja Narendra Krishna Bahadoor, Raja Jotendro Mohun Tagore Bahadoor, Raja Rajendranarain Deb, Bahadoor Raja Suttyanund Ghosal Bahadoor, Raja Harrendra Krishna Bahadoor, Babus Heeralal Seal, Purnolal Seal, Rai Rajendro Mullick Bahadoor, Baboos Soobal Das Mullick, Doorga Churn Law, Shum Chand Law, Joykissen Mookerjee, Bholanath Mullick, Preonath Mullick, Bhoggobutty Churn Mullick, Persad Das Mullick, Jodoolal Mullick, Nundolal Mullick, Nocoor Chunder Mullick, Ashootosh Mullick, Kally Kishen Tagore, Dejendronath Tagore, Goonendronath Tagore, Rajendralala Mittra, Dwarkanath Biswas, Madub Kissen Sett Rai Mohonlal Mittra, Baboos Kheletch Chunder Ghose, Kaliprosunno Ghose, Nogendro Chunder Ghose, Bolie Chand Sing, Sreenath Roy, Sagore Dutt, Nursingh Chunder Dutt, Rajender Coomar Dutt, Chunder Kant Mookerjee, Rajendra Dutt, Dwarkanath Mullick, Obhoy Churn Goho, Tara Chand Guho, Ram Chand Seal, Romanath Law, Ashootosh Dhur, Moorally Dhur Sein, Madub Chunder Sen, Keshub Chunder Sen, Narendra Nath Sein, Kally Das Seal, Gobind Chunder Dhur, Kanyelal Dutt, Kumar Raj Coomar Roy, Baboos Bany Madub Sen, Ramkissen Dass, Prankissen Mookerjee, Joygopal Sen, Preonath Sett, Omritonath Mittra, Sreenath Dass, Byknut Nath Sen, Greesh Chunder Ghose, Hurropersad Ghose, Rajendar Newgy, Khetter Mohun Das, Rajmohun Das, Greesh Chunder Das Rai Bahadoor, Dr. Mohendrolal Sircar, Baboos Chunder Mohun Chatterjee, Damodar Dass Burmon, Buddree Das Mookeem, Surendranath Pal Chowdry, Ramanath Roy, Preonath Dutt, Jogendro Narain Ghose, Ramnarain [illegible] lal, Kanyelal Dey Roy Bahadoor, Prince Roheemoodeen, Newab Asgar Ali Delwar Jung Bahadoor, C.S.I., Newab Ahmad Ali Bahadoor, Hajee Mohamed Zakiria, Hajee Hossain Ibrahim, Mir. Mohamed Ali, Hajee Aga Sued, Hajee Ishmail Moosa, Baboo Tarnack Nath Poramanick, W. C. Bannerjee Esq., Monomohun Ghose Esq., Manickjee Rostomjee Esq., Hurjeebhai Byram Mehta Esq., Elias Gubboy Esq., D. J. Ezra Esq., A. C. Ezra Esq., David Sassoon Esq., J. Bagram Esq., A. A. Apcar Esq., A. Carorke Esq., A. M. Vardon Esq., J. B. Knight Esq., F. Jennings Esq., Hon'ble T. W. Brookes, Robert Allardyce Esq., F. F. Wyman Esq., Dr. VonLintzy.

Mr. Wyman voted thanks to the chair.
The meeting broke up at 6 P. M.

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